

FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF
CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND
COMMERCIAL AND INDUS-
TRIAL ASSOCIATIONS



BOSTON, U.S.A., 1912

GIFT OF
Boston Chamber of Commerce



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BOSTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATIONS

SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER, 1912



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Preface

THE growth and increase of international organizations is one of the most important developments of recent years. Among these evidences of an increasing internationalism, no association is entitled to a place of higher standing or gives promise of greater constructive results than the International Congress of Chambers of Commerce.

The official sessions of the Congress, held every two years, bring together business men from practically every commercial nation on the globe, and accomplish very definite results for the unification of international commercial practices. The personal acquaintanceships made at the meetings among prominent men of different nations also furnish the occasion for the beginnings of many transactions in international commerce, resulting to the mutual advantage of both parties.

And finally, beyond these practical results, the friendship and good will which follow acquaintanceship and a better understanding of each other's point of view, make of the Congresses a living force for the promotion of international peace. -

For these reasons the Boston Chamber of Commerce took pleasure in undertaking the organization of the Fifth Congress which met in Boston in September, 1912, the first time that this great international organization ever held its sessions in the Western hemisphere. It takes this occasion to express gratitude for the co-operation of the Government of the United States, the commercial organizations in all parts of the country, and the citizens of Boston generally. It is naturally a source of great pleasure that the Boston Congress should have been the first at which there were in attendance a considerable number of distinguished business men not only from North America, in which the Congress was held, but also from South America and the Far East.

The usual official report of the Fifth Congress, principally in the French language, will be issued by the Permanent Committee from Brussels. In the Appendix to this book will be found the stenographic report of the official sessions, and the text of the addresses at the final banquet — principally in the English language, although in cases where the speaker used another language, the original language as well as the English translation is given.

As it is generally agreed that the larger benefits of these Congresses are brought about outside the official sessions, we have endeavored to make avail-

able in this report material not readily accessible, which, it is hoped, will interest and help beyond the reading of the printed speeches.

To this end, the first part of this book is devoted to telling briefly the history of the previous Congresses, the story of the Boston Congress, and concluding with material which will be valuable to the foreign delegates in helping them to refresh their recollections of some of the things which they saw on their trip to America.

And this part of the book has been interspersed with illustrations in the hope of making it still more interesting. Of course, the narrow limits of this volume make impossible the inclusion of the photographs of all who had a prominent place in the promotion of this international movement, or even of the Boston Congress. The Boston Chamber of Commerce has included photographs of those Government Delegates and members of the Permanent Committee and American Committees of the Boston Congress which were readily available. It extends apologies to the many who lent their co-operation whose photographs were not in its possession at the time of printing.

And just as each of the Congresses already held has been more successful than the preceding, the Boston Chamber of Commerce hopes that this publication may to some extent help to increase interest in and attendance at the Sixth Congress, which is to meet in Paris in June, 1914.

Boston, U.S.A., 1913.

Contents

	PAGE
PREFACE	iii
CONTENTS	v
LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS	vii
GREETING	<i>Facing 1</i>
PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS	1
OFFICERS OF FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS	3
INTERNATIONAL CONGRESSES OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE	5
Brief History	5
Membership	8
Permanent Committee	9
Programs of the Congresses	10
ACTS AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE BOSTON CONGRESS	13
OFFICIAL SESSIONS AT BOSTON	17
THE EVENTS AT BOSTON	25
TOUR OF THE UNITED STATES	31
BOSTON	41
FACTS ABOUT THE CITIES VISITED ON THE AMERICAN TOUR	51

Appendix

DELEGATES TO THE FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE	63
PERMANENT COMMITTEE	91
OFFICERS AND AMERICAN COMMITTEES	99
LIST OF COMMERCIAL ORGANIZATIONS AFFILIATED WITH PERMANENT COMMITTEE	117
STENOGRAPHIC REPORT OF OFFICIAL SESSIONS	131
Addresses at Official Opening of the Congress	131
The Establishment of a Fixed Date for Easter, and the Reform of the Calendar	144
The Regulation of International Expositions	152
Establishment of an International Court of Arbitral Justice for Suits between Individuals and Foreign States	153
The Unification of Legislation Relating to Checks	190
Commercial Statistics, and the Immediate Institution of an International Office	231
Validation of Through-order-notify Bills of Lading	239
International Postal Reforms in View of the Next Conference of the Universal Postal Union in 1913	244

The Desirability of International Uniformity of Action in the Matter of Consular Invoices	260
The Desirability of an International Conference on Prices and the Cost of Living .	274
International Arbitration	281
THE BANQUET: STENOGRAPHIC REPORT OF THE ADDRESSES	291
RULES	303

List of Illustrations

BOSTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	<i>Frontispiece</i>
	OPPOSITE PAGE
HON. WILLIAM H. TAFT, President of the United States of America; President of American Honorary Committee	6
HON. PHILANDER C. KNOX, Secretary of State for the United States of America . . .	7
HON. CHARLES NAGEL, Secretary of Commerce and Labor for the United States of America	7
LOUIS CANON-LEGRAND, President of the Fifth International Congress of Chambers of Commerce	8
ÉMILE JOTTRAND, General Secretary of the Fifth International Congress of Chambers of Commerce	8
HON. EUGENE N. FOSS, Governor of Massachusetts	9
HON. JOHN F. FITZGERALD, Mayor of Boston	9
JOSEPH B. RUSSELL, President Boston Chamber of Commerce	10
JAMES A. MCKIBBEN, Secretary Boston Chamber of Commerce	10
GEORGE S. SMITH, Chairman Boston Executive Committee	10
ROBERT J. BOTTOMLY, Secretary Boston Executive Committee	10
WILLIAM H. BAIN, Director of the Boston Chamber of Commerce; Member of Boston Executive Committee	11
ELMER J. BLISS, Chairman General Organizing Committee	11
JOHN H. FAHEY, Chairman Committee on Tour	11
BERNARD J. ROTHWELL, Chairman Committee on Entertainment	11
JAMES J. STORROW, Chairman Boston Honorary Committee	12
PROF. F. W. TAUSSIG, Chairman Committee on Program	12
JAMES T. WETHERALD, Chairman Committee on Publicity	12
ROBERT WINSOR, Chairman Committee on Finance	12
F. FAITHFULL BEGG, Chairman of Council of London Chamber of Commerce	13
W. J. THOMPSON, London Chamber of Commerce	13
M. E. YONKER, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Amsterdam	13
T. EDWARD WILDER, Chicago Association of Commerce	13
PROF. DR. MAX APT, Syndic of "Die Ältesten der Kaufmannschaft von Berlin". . . .	14
DR. ALF. GEORG, Vice-President of Chamber of Commerce of Geneva, Switzerland . .	14
EUGÈNE ALLARD, President Belgian Chamber of Commerce of Paris	14
CHARLES S. HAIGHT, New York, N. Y.	14
WILBUR J. CARR, Director American Consular Service	15
PROF. IRVING FISHER, Yale University	15
DR. SOETBEER, General Secretary of "Der Deutscher Handelstag," Berlin	15
DR. MAX VON TAYENTHAL, First Secretary Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Vienna	15
HON. JOHN BARRETT, Director-General of the Pan-American Union	18
H. E. F. A. PEZET, Minister of Peru, Washington, D. C.; Delegate of Commercial Associations of Lima and Callao	18

H. E. DR. CARLOS MARIA DE PENA, Minister of Uruguay, Washington, D. C.; Delegate of Uruguay	18
H. E. ANTONIO MARTIN RIVERO, Minister of Cuba, Washington, D. C.; Delegate of Cuba	18
MANUEL JACINTO FERREIRA DA CUNHA, Consul General of Brazil, New York, N. Y.	19
COUNT CANDIDO DE MENDES DE ALMEIDA, Director Commercial Museum of Rio de Janeiro	19
PEDRO RAFAEL RINCONES, Consul General of Venezuela, New York, N. Y.	19
ADOLFO BALLIVIÁN, Consul General of Bolivia, New York, N. Y.	19
DR. LEONARD HOCHDORF, Secretary to the Austrian Ministry of Commerce	22
DR. EDMUND KUNOSI, Assistant Secretary Hungarian Ministry of Commerce	22
VICENTE GONZALES, Ecuador	22
RAMON ARIAS-FERAUD, Panama	22
DR. ABEL PARDO, Consul General of Argentina, New York, N. Y.	23
RICARDO SANCHEZ CRUZ, Consul General of Chile, New York, N. Y.	23
HORACE N. FISHER, Consul of Chile, Boston, Mass.	23
DR. JORGE VARGAS, Consul of Columbia, Boston, Mass.	23
DELEGATES AT ONE OF THE OFFICIAL SESSIONS	26
SPECIAL EDITIONS OF THE "BOSTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWS"	26
GROUP OF DELEGATES FROM BRITISH EMPIRE SAILING FROM BOSTON	27
GROUP OF DELEGATES FROM JAPAN	27
GROUP OF DELEGATES IN FRONT OF THE COPLEY PLAZA HOTEL	28
GROUP OF DELEGATES AT THE THOMAS G. PLANT SHOE FACTORY, September 27, 1912	29
GROUP OF DELEGATES AT HOME OF EX-MAYOR JAMES LOGAN, Worcester, Mass., September 30, 1912	34
DINNER OF MEMBERS OF COSMOPOLITAN CLUB, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, October 11, 1912	34
DELEGATES AT FACTORY OF PACKARD MOTOR COMPANY, DETROIT, MICHIGAN	35
LUIGI SOLARI, President Italian Chamber of Commerce of New York	38
CHARLES C. HOYT, President New England Shoe and Leather Association	38
DR. W. P. WILSON, Director Philadelphia Commercial Museum	38
JOHN H. PATTERSON, President National Cash Register Company	38
DINNER BY FOREIGN DELEGATES IN HONOR OF BOSTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, New York City, October 19, 1912	39
BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF BOSTON	40
COPLEY PLAZA HOTEL, COPLEY SQUARE, BOSTON, Headquarters of Fifth International Congress	41
BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY, COPLEY SQUARE	41
STEAMSHIP DOCKS AT EAST BOSTON	42
HEAD HOUSE, COMMONWEALTH PIER, SOUTH BOSTON	42
FISHING FLEET AT T WHARF, BOSTON	43
STATE BATHHOUSE AT REVERE IN METROPOLITAN BOSTON	43
PLANT OF THE WALTHAM WATCH COMPANY IN METROPOLITAN BOSTON	44
PLANT OF THE THOMAS G. PLANT SHOE COMPANY, BOSTON	44
PLANT OF THE UNITED SHOE MACHINERY COMPANY	45
WOOD WORSTED MILLS AT LAWRENCE	45
HALL OF THE BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA	46
BOSTON OPERA HOUSE	46
HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, BOSTON	47
BOSTON MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS	47
WEST BOSTON BRIDGE TO CAMBRIDGE	48
STREET RAILWAY TERMINAL AT FOREST HILLS, BOSTON	48
PUBLIC GARDENS IN THE CENTER OF BOSTON	49
COMMONWEALTH AVENUE, BOSTON	49

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

ix

OPPOSITE PAGE

MASSACHUSETTS STATE HOUSE, BOSTON	50
STATE STREET, BOSTON, Showing Old State House	50
SOUTH TERMINAL RAILROAD STATION, BOSTON	51
UNION STATION, WORCESTER	51
McKINLEY MONUMENT, BUFFALO	52
NIAGARA FALLS	52
VIEW OF THE LAKE FRONT, CHICAGO	53
PORTION OF THE CHICAGO STOCK-YARDS	53
VIEW OF THE RIVER FRONT, DETROIT	56
VIEW FROM THE OHIO RIVER, CINCINNATI	56
THE CAPITOL, WASHINGTON, D. C.	57
WHITE HOUSE, WASHINGTON, D. C.	57
THE SKY LINE OF PITTSBURGH	58
INDEPENDENCE HALL, PHILADELPHIA	58
THE SKYSCRAPERS OF LOWER NEW YORK	59
THREE OF THE BRIDGES TO BROOKLYN, NEW YORK	59
OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPH OF DELEGATES TO FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE IN FRONT OF COPLEY PLAZA HOTEL, BOSTON, SEPTEMBER 25, 1912	306





Louis Canon-Begrand
President of the Permanent Committee
Delegate to the

Fifth International Congress of Chambers of Commerce

GREETING

The United States of America, The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, The City of Boston and the Boston Chamber of Commerce extend to the delegates representing the organizations affiliated with the International Congress of Chambers of Commerce assurances of a most cordial welcome to the Fifth International Congress of Chambers of Commerce September 24 to 28, 1912, at Boston.

Under the auspices of the American Honorary Committee, of which Hon. William H. Taft, President of the United States, is President, and having the hearty support of the commercial organizations and business men of America this Congress meets for the first time in its history in the Western Hemisphere.

Let us by earnest cooperation make of this Congress an educational force through which we shall acquire a better knowledge of international economic conditions and problems, which is the first essential to a good understanding between individuals, communities and nations, and thus promote the cause of Peace and Good Will amongst Men.

George S. Smith
Chairman, American Executive Committee

Joseph B. Russell
President Boston Chamber of Commerce

The International Congress

The International Congress of Chambers of Commerce and Commercial and Industrial Associations is an organization representing the business men of the entire world.

The purpose of the Congress is to facilitate the commercial intercourse of nations and to promote cordial relationships between them. At its biennial sessions the Congress considers international commercial problems. It strives to secure harmony of action on all international questions affecting commerce and trade by enlisting the co-operation of the various nations to obtain uniform laws with reference to commercial matters.

The recommendations adopted by the vote of the delegates are carried out by a Permanent Committee with headquarters at Brussels which keeps in touch with the constituent organizations and the Governments of all countries.

The delegates to the Congress are of two classes: first, the official delegates designated to attend the Congress by the Governments of the leading commercial nations; second, the delegates appointed by the leading business organizations of the world which are affiliated with the Congress.

The Governments of all countries in which the Congresses have been held, have always vouchsafed their official recognition. The broadly representative character of the delegates in attendance and the interest taken in the work of the Congress by the business men of highest standing of all nationalities have given to these Congresses a notable place in the business life of the whole world.

The Congresses have been held as follows: Liège, 1905; Milan, 1906; Prague, 1908; London, 1910; Boston, 1912.

Fifth International Congress

Officers

President

LOUIS CANON-LEGRAND

President of the Permanent Committee of the International Congress. President of the Federation of the Commercial and Industrial Associations of Belgium. President of the Chamber of Commerce of Mons

Vice-President

EDWARD A. FILENE

Vice-President of the Permanent Committee of the International Congress. Member of Boston Chamber of Commerce

General Secretary

ÉMILE JOTTRAND

Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce of Mons. Secretary of the Federation of the Commercial and Industrial Associations of Belgium. Director of the Commercial Institute of the Manufacturers of Hainaut

Boston Executive Committee

GEORGE S. SMITH, Chairman

President Boston Chamber of Commerce, 1911

WILLIAM H. BAIN

Director Boston Chamber of Commerce

ELMER J. BLISS

Chairman General Organizing Committee

WILLIAM E. BUTLER

Second Vice-President Boston Chamber of Commerce

J. RANDOLPH COOLIDGE, Jr.

First Vice-President Boston Chamber of Commerce

JOHN H. FAHEY

Chairman Committee on Tour

EDWARD A. FILENE

Vice-President International Congress of Chambers of Commerce

JAMES A. MCKIBBEN

Secretary Boston Chamber of Commerce

BERNARD J. ROTHWELL

Chairman Committee on Entertainment. President Boston Chamber of Commerce, 1910

JOSEPH B. RUSSELL

President Boston Chamber of Commerce, 1912

JAMES J. STORROW

Chairman Boston Honorary Committee. President Boston Chamber of Commerce, 1909

F. W. TAUSSIG

Chairman Committee on Program

JAMES T. WETHERALD

Chairman Committee on Publicity

ROBERT WINSOR

Chairman Committee on Finance

ROBERT J. BOTTOMLY, Secretary

International Congresses of Chambers of Commerce

THE International Congress of Chambers of Commerce and Commercial and Industrial Associations is an organization representing the business men of the entire world. The purpose of the Congress is to facilitate the commercial intercourse of nations and to promote cordial relationships between them. The Congress strives to secure harmony of action on all international questions affecting commerce and trade by enlisting the co-operation of various nations to obtain uniform laws with reference to commercial matters.

The idea of bringing together these great international conferences of representatives of chambers of commerce and business organizations of all countries originated in Belgium. The Federation of Commercial and Industrial Associations of Belgium took the initiative in 1904 by appointing an organizing committee for the purpose of laying the idea before the governments and commercial organizations of all nations. The great International Exposition at Liège in 1905 supplied a most excellent occasion for holding the first sessions. The Federation of Commercial and Industrial Associations of Belgium from the start received the hearty co-operation of the government officials of Belgium and of the Executive Committee of the Exposition at Liège. As a result of the work of the organizing committee some two hundred business associations in many countries signified their willingness to participate in such a great international gathering. The chambers of commerce of Austria, France, Germany, Great Britain and Italy took the lead in offering their support. A little later commercial organizations in Argentina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland extended assurances of their intention to co-operate. The governments of Belgium, China, Cuba, France, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Persia, Portugal, Russia, Sweden, Turkey and the United States of America appointed delegates to attend the first sessions. Assurances of kindly interest were received from the governments of Argentina, Austria, Denmark, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Hungary, Mexico and Roumania.

The First International Congress of Chambers of Commerce was held under these happy auspices at Liège, Belgium, on September 7, 8 and 9, 1905. It enjoyed the patronage of the Belgian Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and of the Belgian Minister of Industry and Labor. At the close of the meeting the assembled delegates unanimously agreed to appoint a Permanent Com-

mittee in order that the Congresses might be convened at regular intervals and continuity given to the work. As President of the Federation of Commercial and Industrial Associations of Belgium, M. Louis Canon-Legrand served as President of the First Congress. He has continued as the presiding officer of the five Congresses which have already been held. Émile Jottrand, Secretary of the Federation of Commercial and Industrial Associations of Belgium, served as the General Secretary of the First Congress and has continued as General Secretary of the Permanent Committee up to the present time.

The Second Congress was held on September 24, 25 and 27, 1906, at Milan under the patronage of His Majesty the King of Italy. The Honorary Presidents were the Italian Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Agriculture, Industry and Commerce. This Congress was held at the time of the International Exposition at Milan. At this Congress the Rules¹ governing the organization and procedure of these Congresses were adopted. It was determined to convene sessions of the Congress every two years. Pending any further decision in the matter, it was voted in confirmation of the decision of the Liège Congress that the headquarters of the Permanent Committee should be at Brussels, Belgium. The Executive Committee of the Second Congress was appointed from the Chamber of Commerce of Milan and from the Union of Italian Chambers of Commerce, an organization comprising some ninety-six distinct associations. Grand Uff. Angelo Salmoiraghi, who was at that time President of both these organizations, served as Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Milan Congress.

The Third Congress was held in Prague in 1908. It was opened in person by its Honorary President, His Imperial Highness the Archduke Charles Francis Joseph. The list of Honorary Presidents contained the names of some eight Ministers and Ex-Ministers of State, as well as the Imperial and Royal Governor of Bohemia, the Mayor of Prague and the President of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Prague. To this Congress some seventeen governments officially accredited delegates. The Congress was held at Prague at the time of the Exposition organized in celebration of the Jubilee of His Majesty the Emperor Francis Joseph. The Executive Committee of this Congress was appointed from the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Prague and had as its President, Count Henri Clam-Martinic.

The Fourth Congress was held at London June 21, 22 and 23, 1910, on the invitation of the London Chamber of Commerce. It was opened by Right Honorable Sidney Buxton, M. P., President of the Board of Trade, who served as Honorary President of the Congress. The Honorary Vice-Presidents included the governmental and commercial leaders of the British Empire, among them the Prime Minister, Right Honorable H. H. Asquith, K. C., M. P. Twenty-nine governments officially nominated delegates to the London Congress. One hundred and eighty-one commercial organizations in nineteen countries were also represented. There were altogether in attendance some 435

¹ For text of Rules adopted at Milan, see Appendix, page 303.



HON. WILLIAM H. TAFT

President of the United States of America; President of American Honorary Committee



Photo by H. W. A. Loring

HON. PHILANDER C. KNOX

Secretary of State for the United States of America



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HON. CHARLES NAGEL

Secretary of Commerce and Labor for the United States of America

VICE PRESIDENTS OF AMERICAN HONORARY COMMITTEE

delegates. The Executive Committee having charge of the arrangements of this Congress was appointed from the London Chamber of Commerce and had as its Chairman, Charles Charleton, Esq., Vice-President of the London Chamber of Commerce.

The Fifth Congress was held in Boston September 24, 25 and 26, 1912. The invitation to hold the Fifth Congress in Boston was extended to the London Congress by the Boston Chamber of Commerce and ninety-eight other commercial organizations representing all parts of New England. During the summer of 1911 the Boston Chamber of Commerce arranged for a party of one hundred American business men to tour some of the principal countries of Europe for the purpose of extending a formal invitation to the governments and commercial organizations of the countries visited to send representatives to the Boston Congress. From the outset the project of holding the Fifth Congress at Boston received the hearty support of the Government of the United States, as well as of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the City of Boston. On January 29, 1912, resolutions extending the governmental recognition to the Congress and providing that official invitations be extended by the Government of the United States were introduced into the Senate of the United States by Senator Lodge of Massachusetts, and into the House of Representatives by Congressman Peters of Boston. These resolutions were passed by both houses of Congress and signed by the President of the United States in the following form:

JOINT RESOLUTION.

62d CONGRESS, 2d SESSION.

"Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress Assembled, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized and requested to extend to Governments of the commercial nations of the world an invitation to be represented officially at the Fifth International Congress of Chambers of Commerce and Commercial and Industrial Associations, to be held in Boston, Massachusetts, September twenty-fourth to twenty-eight, nineteen hundred and twelve.

That the Secretary of State is hereby requested to ask the Governments of the commercial nations of the world to notify the leading business organizations of their respective countries of this action by the Congress of the United States of America and suggest their co-operation."

Official invitations were also passed by the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and by the City Government of Boston. Honorable William H. Taft, President of the United States, headed the American Honorary Committee, under whose auspices the Congress was held, and was the principal speaker at the official dinner to all the delegates. The Vice-Presidents of the American Honorary Committee included the Secretary of State, the

Secretary of Commerce and Labor, as well as the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations and the Chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. The American Honorary Committee included in its membership the diplomatic representatives in the United States of the principal commercial nations, the governors of forty-seven of the states of the Union, the presidents of the principal commercial organizations of the entire country, and about fifty of the business and industrial leaders of the nation. The Boston Honorary Committee comprised a notable list of the leaders in commerce and industry of Metropolitan Boston. The official sessions of the Congress were opened by Honorable Charles Nagel, Secretary of Commerce and Labor for the United States of America. Thirty-three governments officially appointed delegates to the Boston Congress. Three hundred and twenty commercial organizations in 48 countries were represented. There were altogether in attendance 780 delegates from 55 countries.

MEMBERSHIP

The delegates to these Congresses are of two classes: first, the official delegates designated to attend the Congresses by the governments of the leading commercial nations; second, the delegates appointed by the business organizations of the world which are affiliated with the Congress.

In the case of the five Congresses already held the government of the country in which the Congress is to meet has extended official invitations to the other governments of the world to appoint delegates to the Congress and thus extend their official recognition. Government delegates take precedence at the official sessions.

Commercial and industrial organizations in any nation in the world are welcome to membership in the Congress. In order to help defray the expenses of the Permanent Committee and the Permanent Headquarters at Brussels each affiliated organization pays a yearly subscription of fifty francs. This annual fee entitles the affiliated organization to name three delegates to each Congress. For each additional delegate which an organization may desire to send to a Congress, an additional fee of twenty francs is payable. Individual members of an affiliated business organization may be admitted to the Congress as participants upon a payment of a fee of twenty francs. Only delegates, however, are entitled to vote in the deliberations of a Congress.

There are at present 480 commercial organizations in fifty countries affiliated with the Permanent Committee at Brussels and thus entitled to participate in the International Congresses of Chambers of Commerce.¹

¹ For list of affiliated organizations, see Appendix, page 117.



LOUIS CANNON LLERAS

President of the Fifth International Congress of Chambers of Commerce



EMILE JOFFRAND

General Secretary of the Fifth International Congress of Chambers of Commerce



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HON. EUGENE N. FOSS



HON. JOHN F. FITZGERALD

Mayor of Boston

PERMANENT COMMITTEE

In order to give continuity to the work it was determined at the Liège Congress to organize a Permanent Committee. This Committee is composed of not more than three regular members and three alternates from each country. The members of the Permanent Committee are chosen by a vote of the delegates to a Congress from each of the different countries represented and hold office for two years or until the time of the meeting of the succeeding Congress. In countries where there is a national federation of chambers of commerce or commercial and industrial associations the delegates to a Congress may yield to such a national organization the right to choose the members of the Permanent Committee from that country.

The Permanent Committee decides upon the place at which the next Congress is to be held in the event of the previous Congress not having done so. The duties of the Permanent Committee also include the making of arrangements for the meetings and the carrying out of the decisions of the Congress.

An official program of topics to be discussed at the official sessions of each Congress is determined by the Permanent Committee. Each affiliated organization is requested to forward to the Permanent Committee any questions which it may desire to have included in the official program, together with a report giving the essential facts with regard to each question. The Permanent Committee gives careful consideration and makes an investigation of all topics suggested and places upon the official program all those which are decided to be of sufficient international importance. For each topic placed upon the order of the day the Permanent Committee designates a reporter. Each reporter prepares a report upon his topic, and this report is printed in various languages and mailed to all affiliated commercial organizations and nominated delegates in advance of the Congress. At the sessions of the Congress the reporter opens the discussion by briefly summarizing the report which has been previously printed and distributed. The discussion is then thrown open to any delegate or participant.

After the discussion of the topics upon the order of the day a vote of the Congress is generally taken. If the vote taken by the Congress calls for definite action it then becomes the duty of the Permanent Committee to take steps to make the decision effective. This is taken either by interesting some government to call a diplomatic conference of nations to consider the matter in question or by entering into negotiations directly with the different governments in regard to it. The Permanent Committee has obtained its most notable successes by interesting governments to call diplomatic conferences for the purpose of securing international co-operative action among the nations in harmony with the opinion expressed by the Congress. The Permanent Committee has succeeded in this way in enlisting the support of five governments in arranging for diplomatic conferences of nations. The governments which have called such conferences and the topics considered at them are as follows: Hol-

land, on Uniformity of Legislation on Bills of Exchange; Belgium, on Uniformity in Customs Statistics; Switzerland, on a Fixed International Calendar and a Permanent Day for Easter; Italy, on the Organization and Institution of a Program for an International Maritime Union; and Germany, on the Regulation of International Expositions.

Pending any further decision of the matter by the Congress, the headquarters of the Permanent Committee are located at Brussels, where the present office is at 10 rue de la Tribune.

CONCLUSION

In all countries the relations between commercial organizations which are affiliated with the International Congress and the governments have always been of an extremely cordial nature. The interest taken in the work of the Congress by business men of the highest standing of various nationalities together with the official recognition vouchsafed by the governments of the leading commercial nations have made possible the bringing about of many very beneficial results affecting international commerce. The decisions of the Congress in the matter of the topics discussed at its official sessions receive everywhere the most serious consideration.

Beyond this, however, the bringing together of so many business leaders from practically every nation of the globe and the intimate and cordial personal relationships which are thus engendered constitute a powerful agency in the promotion of international understanding. And it is mutual understanding that forms the firmest basis for international friendship and good will. These great international commercial gatherings form one of the most potent forces at work in the world to-day in the promotion of the cause of international peace. They exemplify and promote in a practical way the motto expressed at the opening of the Liège Congress, "Commerce is Peace."

Programs of the Congresses

The importance and wide variety of the subjects discussed by these great international commercial gatherings can be judged from the programs of the five Congresses already held.

FIRST CONGRESS

The First Congress considered the following questions:

International Arbitration (extension of the powers of The Hague Arbitration Court with the object of preventing war and the incalculable loss caused thereby, not only to the belligerents, but to all commercial nations).

Chambers of Commerce (advisability of Chambers of Commerce being organized in every country).



Photo by Messeri, Boston

GEORGE S. SMITH

Chairman Boston Executive Committee



Photo by Norton, Boston

JOSEPH B. RUSSELL

President Boston Chamber of Commerce



ROBERT J. BOTTOMLY

Secretary Boston Executive Committee



JAMES A. MCKIBBEN

Secretary Boston Chamber of Commerce

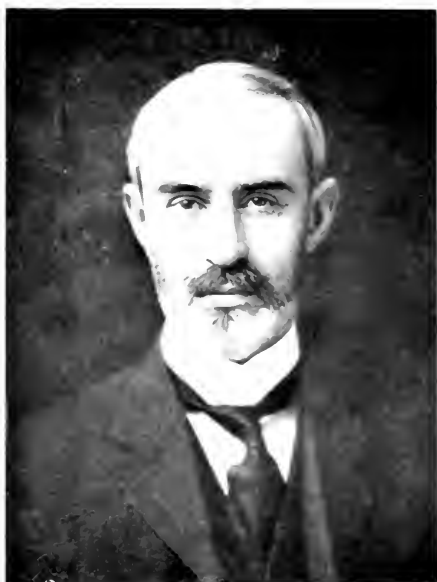
MEMBERS OF BOSTON EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



ELMER J. BLISS
Chairman General Organizing Committee



BERNARD J. ROTHWELL
Chairman Committee on Entertainment



Photo, 1911, by E. Chlekerling

JOHN H. FAHEY
Chairman Committee on Tour



WILLIAM H. BAIN
Director of the Boston Chamber of Commerce

MEMBERS OF BOSTON EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chambers of Commerce (establishment in all Chambers of Commerce of Committees on Imports, Exports, Transports, Industrial Legislation and Commercial Education).

Commercial Federations (establishment of such in all countries of the world, and the publication, by each, of a periodical to contain minutes and general information).

Chambers of Commerce (advisability of records of the deliberations of Chambers of Commerce being interchanged).

Chambers of Commerce (desirability of issuing a complete exposition of Chamber of Commerce organization and of the federations formed by them).

SECOND CONGRESS

The Second Congress considered the following questions:

Postal Reform (reduction of ordinary letter postage and that for printed matter, samples, etc., uniformity in conditions and rules, suppression of the surtax in cases of insufficient postage on letters).

Telephonic Service (institution of a Universal Telephone Union on the lines adopted by the Universal Postal and Telegraph Unions).

International Law relating to Bills of Exchange (the adoption of a universal law).

International Arbitration (recognition of arbitration awards by foreign Governments).

Maritime Routes (constitution of an International Maritime Union, with a permanent executive).

Regulations for Exhibitions (creation of permanent committees in each country to be federated as an international organization).

Customs Statistics (uniform classification for all countries).

Co-operation between Consulates and Chambers of Commerce.

THIRD CONGRESS

The Third Congress considered the following questions:

International Law of Bills of Exchange (proposal of the Dutch Government to convene an International Conference for the purpose of preparing a scheme of uniform international legislation).

Customs Formalities (reduction to what is strictly necessary and international uniformity therein).

Customs Statistics (proposal of the Belgian Government to invite the chiefs of the customs departments of the various nations to a conference, in order to secure international uniformity).

Variability of the Date of Easter.

Harmonization of Commercial Customs.

Regulations governing Exhibitions (reiteration of previous resolution).

International Maritime Union (proposal of the Italian Government to found such an organization, draft program of the matters which might be considered by such an organization).

Political Economy (institution of chairs of International Commercial Politics at the universities, technical schools, etc., where not already in existence).

FOURTH CONGRESS

The Fourth Congress considered the following questions:

Establishment of a Fixed Date for Easter. Unification and simplification of the Gregorian Calendar.

Direct Representation of Commerce and Industry at official conferences and international economic congresses.

Development of Postal Unions and of the European Postal Union.

Unification of the Law regarding Checks.

Enforcement of Judgments (and Arbitration Awards) pronounced in foreign countries.

Advisability of all countries adhering to the Convention of Madrid, which deals with the suppression of false marks of origin on goods.

Methods of Valuation for the compilation of Customs Statistics.

FIFTH CONGRESS

The Fifth Congress considered the following questions:

The Establishment of a Fixed Date for Easter, and the reform of the Calendar.

Regulation of International Expositions.

The Establishment of an International Court of Arbitral Justice for suits between individuals and foreign States.

The Unification of Legislation relating to Checks.

International Postal Reforms in view of the next conference of the Universal Postal Union in 1913.

Commercial Statistics and the immediate institution of an International Office.

The desirability of an international conference upon the validation of Through-order-notify Bills of Lading, and of legislation and other means for making the system more effective.

The desirability of international uniformity of action in the matter of Consular Invoices.

The desirability of an international conference on Prices and the Cost of Living.

Arbitral Jurisdiction over all matters.



JAMES J. STORROW
Chairman Boston Honorary Committee



ROBERT WINSOR
Chairman Committee on Finance



PROF. T. W. TAUSSIG
Chairman Committee on Program



JAMES T. WITHERWALD
Chairman Committee on Publicity

MEMBERS OF BOSTON EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



F. FAITHFULL BEGG

Chairman of Council of London Chamber of
Commerce



W. J. THOMPSON

London Chamber of Commerce



M. E. YONKER

Chamber of Commerce and Industry of
Amsterdam



T. EDWARD WILDER

Chicago Association of Commerce

MEMBERS OF PERMANENT COMMITTEE

Acts and Resolutions of the Boston Congress

SEPTEMBER 24, 25 AND 26, 1912.

I. The Establishment of a Fixed Date for Easter and a Uniform Calendar

RESOLUTION: The Congress renews the resolution which it passed at the preceding session in London in 1910 in favor of the establishment of a fixed date for Easter and of a uniform calendar.

II. An International Court of Arbitral Justice for Suits between Individuals and Foreign States

RESOLUTION: The Congress desires to record its opinion in favor of the creation of an international court of arbitral justice for suits between individuals and foreign States. It would be grateful to the Government of the United States if the latter would take the initiative in calling a conference for this purpose.

III. The Unification of Legislation relating to Checks

RESOLUTION: The Congress is of the opinion that the unification of the laws relating to checks is desirable. The Congress recommends to its members to organize a committee composed of one delegate from each country, which shall meet at London and prepare a report upon this question for consideration at the next Congress.

IV. International Postal Reforms

RESOLUTION: The Congress requests the Permanent Committee to call to the attention of the Universal Postal Union the postal reforms formulated in the following propositions:

1. The rate fixed by the Universal Postal Union for the carriage of letters shall be reduced from 25 centimes to 10 centimes, that is, to the tariff rate for domestic postage. This tariff rate shall be collected by the weight or fraction of the weight of 20 grams throughout the extent of the Postal Union, the weight being calculated by the metric system.

2. The States subscribing to the Universal Postal Convention of 1906, which, by virtue of item III of the final protocol of this agreement, have retained the limits of weight and the rates of the preceding postal agreement, shall renounce this exceptional practice.

3. In international postage the additional charge collected by the postal service for the absence or insufficiency of postage on articles of letter mail shall be fixed uniformly at 5 centimes.

4. The postal administrations of the States belonging to the Universal Union shall deliver to the addressees all sealed letters which come to them from abroad, even when the exterior of the letter does not conform to the postal regulations of the country of destination.

5. The provision of Article 55 of the Universal Postal Convention I, reading that samples of merchandise must have no merchantable value, shall be repealed. The limit of weight for samples shall be raised to 500 grams.

6. For postal parcels the limit of weight shall be raised from 5 to 10 kilograms. By way of exception, the States of the Postal Union whose domestic regulations forbid the sending of postal parcels of more than 5 kilograms may maintain this limit of weight.

7. The Universal Postal Convention shall establish a special category for postal parcels of a maximum weight of 1 kilogram, which, in consideration of a special rate, shall be shipped by a more rapid route.

8. The Universal Postal Convention shall impose upon the States of the Union a reasonable period for the delivery of postal parcels varying according to the country of destination, beyond which the postal administrations shall be responsible.

9. The administrations signing the agreement concerning postal parcels shall be bound to accept the parcels at the value declared.

10. The rate for business papers shall be fixed as for printed matter at 5 centimes for each 50 grams or fraction thereof (without minimum rate).

11. The acceptance of packages for collection on delivery shall be obligatory for all the countries of the Postal Union.

12. The postal service is responsible for packages sent subject to collection on delivery which it has delivered without having collected the amount of the charge.



PROF. DR. MAX APT

Syndic of "Die Altesten der Kaufmannschaft
von Berlin"



DR. ALF. GEORG

Vice-President of Chamber of Commerce of
Geneva, Switzerland



EUGÈNE ALLARD

President Belgian Chamber of Commerce of
Paris



CHARLES S. HAIGHT

New York, N. Y.

OFFICIAL REPORTERS



WILBUR J. CARR
Director American Consular Service



PROF. IRVING FISHER
Yale University

OFFICIAL REPORTERS



DR. SOETBEER
General Secretary of "Deutscher Handelstag," Berlin



DR. MAX VON TAYENTHAL
First Secretary Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Vienna

MEMBERS OF PERMANENT COMMITTEE

V. Commercial Statistics and the Immediate Institution of an International Office

THE CONGRESS:

Recognizing the initiative taken by the Belgian Government in bringing together at Brussels on September 19, 1910, delegates of twenty-two States to seek for the means of introducing more harmony and unity in the tables of exchanges of the commerce of the whole world;

Approving the decision taken at that conference to have established for each one of these States in addition to its own commercial statistics a common nomenclature under which may be grouped all merchandise imported or exported under the heading of both weight and value;

Expresses the wish that this common nomenclature may appear with the briefest possible delay in the statistical tables of the governments represented at the conference, and hopes that the Belgian Government may be willing to continue its co-operation for the realization of this program;

Approves the proposition made at the Brussels Conference for the creation of an international bureau of commercial statistics for the purpose of centralizing information under all useful headings to give to the commerce of the whole world an annual summary, and as soon as possible, a semi-annual summary and eventually, a monthly summary of the commercial movements of the different countries of the globe, arranged in conformity with the grouping of merchandise adopted by the aforesaid conference;

Adopts the resolution that the Belgian Government invite without delay all the States to conclude a convention assuring the execution of the projected works.

VI. Through-order-notify Bills of Lading

The Congress approves the resolution now pending in the Congress of the United States for establishing the liability of carriers on bills of lading issued by their agents in international shipments.

The Congress views with satisfaction the system of a Central Bureau for the validation of bills of lading in international transactions.

The Congress refers to the Permanent Committee the consideration of an international conference for the purpose of promoting uniformity in the laws governing the liability of international carriers.

VII. Consular Invoices

The Congress approves in principle the proposal for the uniformity of consular invoices, and recommends to the interested States for their consideration the form of consular invoice prepared by the Fourth Conference of the Pan-American Union.

The Congress approves the recommendation for moderate consular fees and their strict limitation to amounts necessary to cover the cost of the consular service.

VIII. The High Cost of Living

The Congress approves the proposition of convoking an international congress on the question of the high cost of living, its increase, its causes, its results and the measures and remedies possible to improve the situation.

The Congress transmits the project and report of the Hungarian National Commercial Association for the uniform compilation of statistics of prices to the Permanent Committee with the view of its taking it under consideration and referring it eventually to an international conference.

IX. Arbitral Jurisdiction over all Matters

The Congress affirms its desire to see convene, as soon as possible, official international conferences which will assure between nations the existence of arbitral jurisdiction conceived in the widest sense of the term, and of a nature to assure an equitable solution of all international disputes either between individuals of different States or between the States themselves.

The Congress declares its adherence to the principle of a combination of nations, when and where possible, to endeavor to prevent the atrocities of war.

Official Sessions at Boston

SEPTEMBER, 24, 25 and 26, 1912

FIRST SESSION

TUESDAY MORNING

THE first official session of the Congress was opened by GEORGE S. SMITH,¹ Chairman of the Boston Executive Committee, President of the Boston Chamber of Commerce in 1911, who extended a hearty welcome to the delegates. He introduced Hon. CHARLES NAGEL,² Secretary of Commerce and Labor for the United States, who extended to the delegates a welcome on behalf of the Government of the United States of America. Other welcomes followed. His Excellency Governor EUGENE N. FOSS³ spoke for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; Hon. JOHN F. FITZGERALD⁴ for the City of Boston; President HARRY A. WHEELER,⁵ of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, for the commercial organizations of the United States. EDWARD A. FILENE,⁶ Vice-President of the International Congress, and a former director of the Boston Chamber of Commerce, extended his welcome and introduced LOUIS CANON-LEGRAND,⁷ President of the Fifth International Congress of Chambers of Commerce, who responded for the delegates. Then began the first official session of the Congress.

President LOUIS CANON-LEGRAND presented the opening report upon the first topic: "The establishment of a fixed date for Easter and the reform of the calendar."⁸ He called attention to the fact that at the instance of the Permanent Committee the Government of Switzerland had taken the initiative in bringing about an official international conference upon this subject. He further called attention to the fact that in June, 1912, the Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the British Empire had unanimously passed a resolution upon this subject. The question of calendar reform was discussed by F. FAITH-

¹ For text of address of Chairman Smith, see Appendix, page 131.

² For text of address of Secretary Nagel, see Appendix, page 132.

³ For text of address of Governor Foss, see Appendix, page 134.

⁴ For text of address of Mayor Fitzgerald, see Appendix, page 135.

⁵ For text of address of President Wheeler, see Appendix, page 138.

⁶ For text of address of Vice-President Filene, see Appendix, page 140.

⁷ For text of address of President Canon-Legrand, see Appendix, page 141.

⁸ For text of report upon a fixed date for Easter and the reform of the calendar, see Appendix, page 141.

FULL BEGG,⁹ Chairman of the Council of the London Chamber of Commerce; ERNST KRAUSE,¹⁰ Vice-President of the Lower Austrian Association for the Promotion of Handicraft; ALFRED ASLETT¹¹ of the Barrow-in-Furness Chamber of Commerce. The vote of the London Congress in favor of a fixed date for Easter and of calendar reform was reaffirmed. Mr. FILENE presented a letter from the Chinese delegates assuring the Congress of their hearty accord with the vote taken.

SECOND SESSION

TUESDAY AFTERNOON

The discussion of calendar reform was concluded in the early part of the second session.

President CANON-LEGRAND submitted a report upon the regulation of international expositions,¹² calling attention to the fact that the German Government was taking the initiative in calling an official international conference on this subject for October, 1912.

Prof. Dr. MAX APT of Berlin submitted the official report on the second topic of the order of the day: "The establishment of an international court of arbitral justice for suits between individuals and foreign States,"¹³ and offered a resolution in favor of the establishment of such a court. The principal speakers upon this topic were R. S. FRASER¹⁴ of the London Chamber of Commerce; Dr. LOUIS VARJASSY,¹⁵ Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Arad, Hungary; and EUGÈNE ALLARD,¹⁶ President of the, Belgian Chamber of Commerce of Paris. ROBERTO POZZI¹⁷ then addressed the Congress on question of arbitration of suits between individuals of different States and offered the following motion:

"The International Federation of the Patronal Associations of Weavers and Manufacturers of Cotton express the keenest approbation of the proposition of "Die Ältesten der Kaufmannschaft von Berlin" for the creation of an arbitral tribunal for the differences between individuals and foreign States, recommends to the attention of the executive committee of the Congresses the study of the question concerning the unification of the different systems of law, in the matter of arbitration between individuals, especially as regards the validity or otherwise of the clause of compromise, and requests the Congress to take into consideration this question, and to refer it to the desk so that it may be presented to the next Congress after instruction."

⁹ For text of address of Mr. Begg, see Appendix, page 145.

¹⁰ For text and translation of address of Mr. Krause, see Appendix, page 147.

¹¹ For text of address of Mr. Aslett, see Appendix, page 150.

¹² For text of report on the regulation of international expositions, see Appendix, page 152.

¹³ For text and translation of the report of Dr. Apt upon an international arbitration court for suits between individuals and foreign States, see Appendix, page 154.

¹⁴ For text of address of Mr. Fraser, see Appendix, page 161.

¹⁵ For text and translation of address of Dr. Varjassy, see Appendix, page 162.

¹⁶ For text and translation of address of Mr. Allard, see Appendix, page 165.

¹⁷ For text of address of Mr. Pozzi, see Appendix, page 168.



HON. JOHN BARRETT

Director-General of the Pan-American Union



Photo by Harris & Ewing

H. E. F. A. PEZET

Minister of Peru, Washington, D. C.; Delegate
of commercial associations of Lima and
Callao



Photo by Harris & Ewing

H. E. DR. CARLOS MARIA DE PENA

Minister of Uruguay, Washington, D. C.;
Government Delegate of Uruguay



Photo by Harris & Ewing

H. E. ANTONIO MARTIN RIVERO

Minister of Cuba, Washington, D. C.; Govern-
ment Delegate of Cuba



MANUEL JACINTHO FERREIRA DA
CUNHA

Consul General of Brazil, New York, N. Y.



COUNT CANDIDO DE MENDES DE
ALMEIDA

Director Commercial Museum of Rio de
Janeiro



PEDRO RAFAEL RINCONES

Consul General of Venezuela, New York, N. Y.

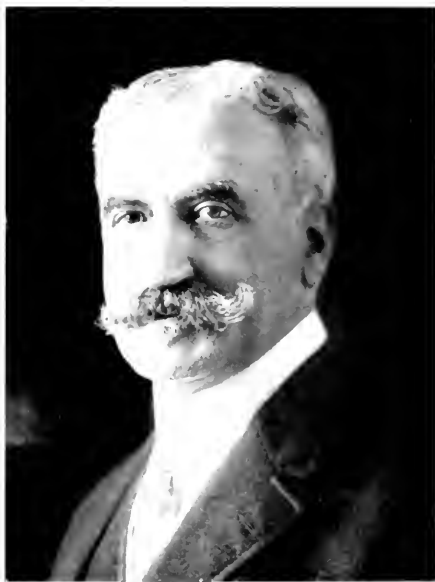


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ADOLFO BALLIVIÁN

Consul General of Bolivia, New York, N. Y.

GOVERNMENT DELEGATES

LAWRENCE V. BENET¹⁸ of the American Chamber of Commerce of Paris urged the adoption of a resolution to include the arbitration of suits between individuals of different countries.

EDWIN D. MEAD¹⁹ of Boston urged the consideration of the question of arbitration between the governments of different nations and submitted the following resolution:

"The Fifth International Congress of Chambers of Commerce, representing the great interests of industry and commerce which are increasing so rapidly the interdependence of nations and demand so imperatively for their advancement and prosperity the peace and order of the world, urges the commercial organizations of all countries to earnest efforts for the widest extension of arbitration to the settlement of international disputes and for the earliest possible establishment of the Court of Arbitral Justice provided for by the last Hague Conference."

This resolution was supported by EDWIN GINN²⁰ and SAMUEL B. CAPEN²¹ of Boston and FRANK D. LA LANNE²² of Philadelphia, and was discussed at length. The Congress went on record in favor of the resolution proposed by Dr. APT. The President of the Congress ruled that the other two resolutions were not admissible for action by the Congress as amendments to the second question on the order of the day, but were really new questions not on the order of the day, and therefore would have to be referred to the Permanent Committee to be considered for the program of the next Congress.

The exact meaning of this ruling was discussed with the President by Bernard J. Shoninger and William J. Thomas of the American Chamber of Commerce of Paris.²³

THIRD SESSION

WEDNESDAY MORNING

The third session was opened by a statement in English of Vice-President FILENE²⁴ explaining the ruling of the President at the conclusion of the second session. This was discussed by BERNARD J. SHONINGER²⁵ and explained in German by Dr. SOETBEER,²⁶ General Secretary of "Der Deutscher Handelstag" of Berlin. The President then called attention to the fact that members of the Permanent Committee were elected by the delegates of the various countries

¹⁸ For text of address of Mr. Benet, see Appendix, page 170.

¹⁹ For text of address of Mr. Mead, see Appendix, page 171.

²⁰ For text of address of Mr. Ginn, see Appendix, page 172.

²¹ For text of address of Mr. Capen, see Appendix, page 175.

²² For text of address of Mr. La Lanne, see Appendix, page 176.

²³ For text of discussion between the President and Messrs. Shoninger and Thomas, see Appendix, pages 177-183.

²⁴ For statement of Vice-President Filene, see Appendix, page 185.

²⁵ For statement of Mr. Shoninger, see Appendix, page 186.

²⁶ For text and translation of statement of Dr. Soetbeer, see Appendix, page 187.

represented at the Congress, with the exception of those countries where there exists a national federation of chambers of commerce, to which this right can be granted.

Prof. Dr. MAX APT of Berlin presented his report upon the third subject in the order of the day: "The unification of legislation relating to checks."²⁷ The principal speakers upon this question besides Dr. Apt were Dr. CANDIDO DE MENDES DE ALMEIDA²⁸ of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; EUGÈNE ALLARD²⁹ of Paris; CHARLES CHRISTOPHE³⁰ of Ghent; F. FAITHFULL BEGG³¹ of London; and MAX RICHTER³² of Berlin. General discussion followed which was participated in by delegates from many countries.³³ The Congress went unanimously on record in favor of the desirability of unification of the laws relating to checks.

The second part of the resolution offered by Dr. APT was as follows:

"A necessary complement to the creation of a universal law on bills of exchange and checks is the creation of a high court at The Hague which will decide as a court of last appeal controversies regarding questions involving the universal law of bills of exchange and checks."

This second proposition was not adopted as a resolution by the Congress.

This session ended by a vote of the Congress requesting that all motions should be repeated in three languages, — French, English and German.³⁴

FOURTH SESSION

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

At the opening of the fourth session on Wednesday afternoon it was agreed that the fourth topic on the order of the day with reference to Postal Reforms should go over until Thursday morning. EUGÈNE ALLARD then presented his official report upon the fifth topic: "Commercial statistics and the immediate institution of an international office."³⁵ This topic was discussed by W. M. HAYS,³⁶ Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for the United States, R. S. FRASER³⁷

²⁷ For text and translation of the report of Dr. Apt upon the unification of legislation relating to checks, see Appendix, page 190.

²⁸ For text and translation of Dr. Almeida, see Appendix, page 204.

²⁹ For text and translation of address of Mr. Allard, see Appendix, page 210.

³⁰ For text and translation of address of Mr. Christophe, see Appendix, page 212.

³¹ For text of address of Mr. Begg, see Appendix, page 214.

³² For text and translation of address of Mr. Richter, see Appendix, page 216.

³³ For general discussion of the unification of legislation relating to checks, see Appendix, pages 217-221.

³⁴ For discussion of the need of the statement of the votes in the different languages, see Appendix, pages 222-230.

³⁵ For text and translation of the report of Mr. Allard on commercial statistics, see Appendix, page 231.

³⁶ For text of address of Assistant Secretary Hays, see Appendix, page 233.

³⁷ For text of address of Mr. Fraser, see Appendix, page 235.

of London, Dr. SOETBEER³⁸ of Berlin and B. J. SHONINGER³⁹ of Paris. The Congress unanimously went on record in approval of the initiative taken by the Belgian Government in bringing together an international conference upon this subject at Brussels in 1910, and expressed the wish that the Belgian Government should invite without delay all States to conclude a convention assuring uniform international commercial statistics and the immediate institution of an international office.

CHARLES S. HAIGHT of New York then presented his official report upon the sixth topic of the order of the day: "The desirability of an international conference upon the validation of through-order-notify bills of lading, and of legislation and other means for making the system more effective."⁴⁰ This subject was discussed by SAMUEL E. PIZA⁴¹ of Costa Rica. The Congress went on record in approval of the legislation on this matter now pending in the Congress of the United States and referred to the Permanent Committee the consideration of the question of an international conference to promote uniformity in the laws governing the liability of international carriers.

FIFTH SESSION

THURSDAY MORNING

The fifth session opened with the presentation by ALFRED GEORG of Geneva, Switzerland, of his report upon the fourth topic on the order of the day: "International postal reforms in view of the next conference of the Universal Postal Union in 1913."⁴² This topic was discussed by HUGO MANES⁴³ of the Association of Export Houses, Frankfort-on-the-Main; BERNARD J. SHONINGER⁴⁴ of Paris; A. BARTON KENT⁴⁵ of London; EDUARDO AGUSTI⁴⁶ of Barcelona; and Dr. CANDIDO DE MENDES DE ALMEIDA⁴⁷ of Rio de Janeiro. The Congress adopted twelve specific propositions for postal reforms, and requested the Permanent Committee to call them to the attention of the Universal Postal Union.

THOMAS SAMMONS, American Consul General at Yokohama, Japan, presented the official report prepared by WILBUR J. CARR, Director of the American Consular Service, on "The desirability of international uniformity of action

³⁸ For text and translation of address of Dr. Soetbeer, see Appendix, page 236.

³⁹ For text of address of Mr. Shoninger, see Appendix, page 236.

⁴⁰ For text of the report of Mr. Haight on through-order-notify bills of lading, see Appendix, page 239.

⁴¹ For text of address of Mr. Piza, see Appendix, page 241.

⁴² For text of report of Dr. Georg on postal reforms, see Appendix, page 245.

⁴³ For text and translation of address of Mr. Manes, see Appendix, page 253.

⁴⁴ For text of address of Mr. Shoninger, see Appendix, page 256.

⁴⁵ For text of address of Mr. Kent, see Appendix, page 256.

⁴⁶ For text of remarks of Mr. Agusti, see Appendix, page 257.

⁴⁷ For text of remarks of Dr. Almeida, see Appendix, page 258.

in the matter of consular invoices.⁷⁴⁸ WILLIAM C. DOWNS,⁴⁹ an American exporter, presented a specially prepared supplementary report upon this topic. The question was further discussed by Dr. EDMUND KUNOSI,⁵⁰ Assistant Secretary in the Royal Hungarian Ministry of Commerce; LAWRENCE V. BENET⁵¹ of the American Chamber of Commerce of Paris; Honorable JOHN BARRETT,⁵² Director-General of the Pan-American Union; C. H. CATELLI⁵³ of the Montreal Chamber of Commerce; C. D. MORTON⁵⁴ of the London Chamber of Commerce; Dr. SOETBEER⁵⁵ of Berlin; Dr. A. KIESSELBACH⁵⁶ of the Hamburg Chamber of Commerce; HUGO MANES⁵⁷ of Frankfort-on-the-Main; PAUL MEYER⁵⁸ of Nottingham; JOSEPH A. LECKIE⁵⁹ of Walsall; His Excellency F. A. PEZET,⁶⁰ Minister of Peru at Washington; and EUGÈNE ALLARD⁶¹ of Paris. The Congress adopted resolutions in favor of uniform consular invoices and recommended for consideration the form of consular invoice prepared by the Fourth Conference of the Pan-American Union. It approved the recommendation for moderate consular fees and their limitation to amounts necessary to cover the cost of the consular service. On behalf of the Cuban delegation His Excellency ANTONIO MARTIN RIVERO,⁶² Minister of Cuba at Washington, stood sponsor for these resolutions.

Prof. IRVING FISHER of Yale University presented the report upon the eighth topic of the order of the day: "The desirability of an international conference on prices and the cost of living."⁶³ This question was discussed by Dr. EDMUND KUNOSI⁶⁴ of Budapest; C. H. CANBY⁶⁵ of Chicago; Prof. F. W. TAUSSIG⁶⁶ of Harvard University; F. W. COOK⁶⁷ of Dudley, England; and J. PIERSON⁶⁸ of the Netherlands Chamber of Commerce of Paris. The Congress approved the proposition of convoking an international conference on

⁴⁸ For text of address of Mr. Sammons on consular invoices, see Appendix, page 260.

⁴⁹ For text of report of Mr. Downs on consular invoices, see Appendix, page 262.

⁵⁰ For text of address of Dr. Kunosi, see Appendix, page 261.

⁵¹ For text of address of Mr. Benet, see Appendix, page 262.

⁵² For text of address of Director-General Barrett, see Appendix, page 267.

⁵³ For text and translation of address of Mr. Catelli, see Appendix, page 268.

⁵⁴ For text of address of Mr. Morton, see Appendix, page 269.

⁵⁵ For text and translation of address of Dr. Soetbeer, see Appendix, page 269.

⁵⁶ For text and translation of address of Dr. Kiesselbach, see Appendix, page 271.

⁵⁷ For text and translation of address of Mr. Manes, see Appendix, page 271.

⁵⁸ For text of address of Mr. Meyer, see Appendix, page 272.

⁵⁹ For text of address of Mr. Leckie, see Appendix, page 272.

⁶⁰ For text of address of His Excellency F. A. Pezet, see Appendix, page 273.

⁶¹ For text and translation of statement of Mr. Allard, see Appendix, page 273.

⁶² For statement of His Excellency A. M. Rivero, see Appendix, page 274.

⁶³ For text of report of Professor Fisher upon an international conference on the cost of living, see Appendix, page 274.

⁶⁴ For text of address of Dr. Kunosi, see Appendix, page 277.

⁶⁵ For text of address of Mr. Canby, see Appendix, page 277.

⁶⁶ For text of address of Professor Taussig, see Appendix, page 278.

⁶⁷ For text of address of Mr. Cook, see Appendix, page 278.

⁶⁸ For text of address of Mr. Pierson, see Appendix, page 280.



DR. LEONHARD HOCHDORF
Secretary to the Austrian Ministry of Commerce



DR. EDMUND KUNOSI
Assistant Secretary Hungarian Ministry of Commerce



VICENTE GONZALES
Ecuador



RAMON ARIAS FERAUD
Panama

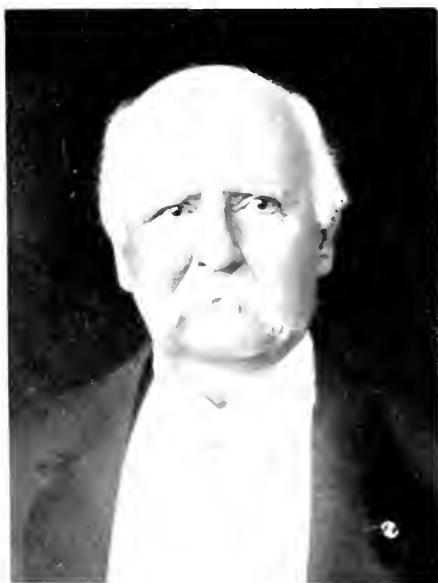
GOVERNMENT DELEGATES



DR. ABEL PARDO
Consul General of Argentina, New York, N. Y.



RICARDO SANCHEZ CRUZ
Consul General of Chile, New York, N. Y.



HORACE N. FISHER
Consul of Chile, Boston, Mass.



DR. JORGE VARGAS
Consul of Colombia, Boston, Mass.

GOVERNMENT DELEGATES

the high cost of living, and transmitted the report of the Hungarian National Commercial Association for the harmonious compilation of statistics of prices to the Permanent Committee with a view of its taking it under consideration and referring it eventually to the proposed international conference.

At the conclusion of this discussion LOUIS CANON-LEGRAND,⁶⁹ President of the Congress, presented a further resolution upon the topic of international arbitration which was as follows:

"The Congress affirms its desire to see convened as soon as possible official international conferences, assuring between nations the existence of arbitral jurisdiction in the widest sense of the term and of a nature to assure an equitable solution of all international controversies, either between individuals of different States, or between the States themselves.

The Congress declares its adherence to the principle of a combination of nations when and where possible to endeavor to prevent the atrocities of war."

This resolution was discussed by R. S. FRASER⁷⁰ of London; Sir JOHN E. BINGHAM⁷¹ of London; FRANK D. LA LAMME⁷² of Philadelphia; and BERNARD J. SHONINGER⁷³ of Paris. It was unanimously adopted by the Congress.

The question of the choice of the next place of meeting for the Congress was referred to the Permanent Committee for decision. Invitations were presented from Barcelona, Spain; Geneva, Switzerland; Monaco; Amsterdam, Holland; Leipzig, Germany; and Lisbon, Portugal.

In appreciation of the hospitality extended to the delegates, LOUIS LAZARD⁷⁴ of Brussels proposed a contribution for the poor of Boston. The official sessions of the Congress concluded with expressions of appreciation for the welcome extended at Boston. On motion of Sir JOSEPH LAWRENCE of London, seconded by B. J. SHONINGER of Paris, a cordial vote of thanks was extended to the President of the Congress, LOUIS CANON-LEGRAND.

On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings Special Fifth International Congress editions of the "Boston Chamber of Commerce News" were published and delivered to the delegates before the start of the day's activities. In addition to the running account of the different events, these issues contained a complete stenographic report of the official proceedings of the preceding day, and on Friday morning contained the stenographic report of the addresses delivered at the concluding banquet.

⁶⁹ For text of address of President Canon-Legrand on international arbitration, see Appendix, page 281.

⁷⁰ For text of address of Mr. Fraser, see Appendix, page 283.

⁷¹ For text of address of Sir John E. Bingham, see Appendix, page 284.

⁷² For text of address of Mr. La Lanne, see Appendix, page 285.

⁷³ For text of address of Mr. Shoninger, see Appendix, page 285.

⁷⁴ For statement of Mr. Lazard, see Appendix, page 287.



The Events at Boston

THE official sessions of the Fifth International Congress of Chambers of Commerce were held in the hall of the Copley Plaza Hotel, Boston, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, September twenty-fourth, twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth. The greater part of the delegates arrived in Boston on Sunday and Monday, September twenty-second and twenty-third. The special trains, which took a goodly share of the delegates from abroad on a tour of some of the principal commercial and industrial centers of the United States departed from Boston on Monday morning, September thirtieth. Thus slightly more than one week was devoted to the official sessions and entertainment in Boston.

The official headquarters and bureau of information were opened in the Copley Plaza Hotel on Sunday, September twenty-second. At the official headquarters there were constantly in attendance during the entire stay in Boston representatives of the various Boston committees, and a corps of secretaries and interpreters entirely at the disposal of the delegates. During the days upon which the delegates were arriving, all the trains entering the city were boarded by representatives of the Boston committees at about the distance of one hour's journey from Boston. The representatives of the Boston committees gave directions to the delegates on each train as to how to reach the official headquarters, and advised them specifically of the hotel reservations which had been secured for them by the Boston committees. Delegates who were not informed of their hotel reservations in this manner were taken promptly to their hotels upon application at the bureau of information.

In accordance with previous advices, all delegates were directed to proceed at once to official headquarters and register. During the first few days of the Congress 780 officially appointed delegates from 55 countries made their registration at headquarters. This number included delegates officially accredited from the governments of 33 countries.

Immediately upon registration each delegate was presented with a large folder. In this folder was a complete set in French, English and German of the reports prepared by the official reporters upon each subject upon the order of the day of the Congress, as well as the order of the day itself in the sixteen languages which the cosmopolitan character of the Congress made necessary. There were besides included a guide-book of Boston; a handsomely leather-bound book descriptive of the city, with the individual name of the delegate inscribed upon the cover; a booklet of taxicab coupons for the use of the delegates

in journeys about the city; cards admitting each delegate to at least three clubs; a small leather booklet containing announcements and tickets to the official sessions and all entertainment events; booklets announcing the plans for Boston and for the tour; a booklet containing a list of the delegates, numbered in the order of the receipt of the announcement of their appointment; and a badge identifying the delegate by country and number.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

At six o'clock on Monday evening all members of the Permanent Committee met at dinner with members of the Boston Executive Committee, made and renewed many personal acquaintanceships, and talked over the general outline of the plans for the official sessions.

On Monday evening the Boston Chamber of Commerce tendered a formal reception to all the delegates and their ladies who accompanied them. This reception was held in the ball-room of the Copley Plaza Hotel from eight until ten o'clock. It was a social occasion such as has seldom taken place. There were in attendance over one thousand men and women representing practically every country on the globe. The guests were received in the foyer of the ball-room by President and Mrs. JOSEPH B. RUSSELL of the Boston Chamber of Commerce, Chairman and Mrs. GEORGE S. SMITH of the Boston Executive Committee, Chairman and Mrs. JAMES J. STORROW of the Boston Honorary Committee, Mayor and Mrs. JOHN F. FITZGERALD of Boston, President and Mme. LOUIS CANON-LEGRAND of the International Congress, Vice-President EDWARD A. FILENE of the International Congress, and Secretary and Mme. ÉMILE JOTtrand of the International Congress.

For two hours the delegates mingled and became acquainted with each other as a preliminary to the week of business sessions and entertainment. In the great ball-room a buffet luncheon was served.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

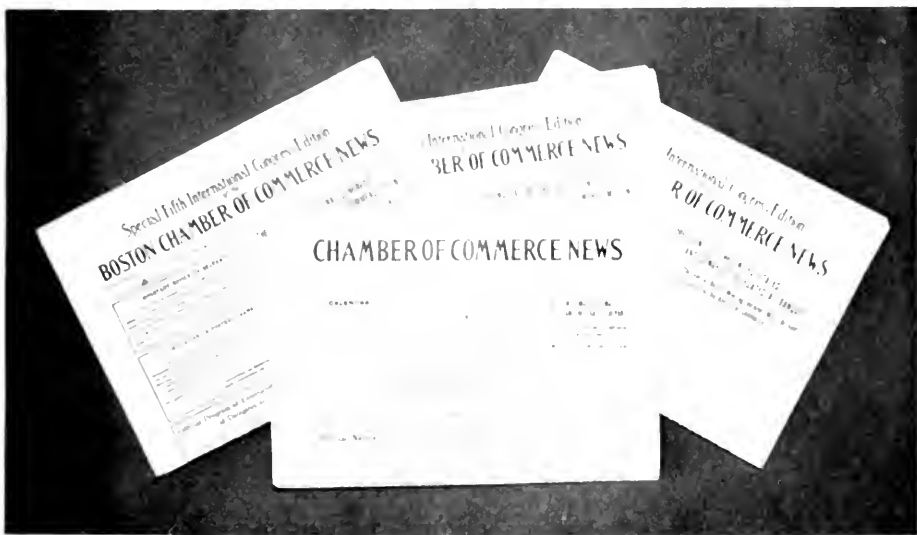
The official opening of the Congress took place at 10.30 A.M. Tuesday morning in the ball-room of the Copley Plaza Hotel, which had been rearranged and fitted out for this purpose. The first official session lasted until half past twelve o'clock.

Between the morning and afternoon sessions of the Congress the delegates were taken in special cars as the guests of the Boston Elevated Railway to Cambridge by way of the subway and viaduct. The delegates were served a buffet luncheon in the shops of the Company at Cambridge, and returned to Boston by way of the new Cambridge tunnel.

During the morning session the visiting women were entertained by a committee of women of Boston. They were taken on an automobile trip in



DELEGATES AT ONE OF THE OFFICIAL SESSIONS



SPECIAL EDITIONS OF THE "BOSTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWS"



GROUP OF DELEGATES FROM BRITISH EMPIRE SAILING FROM BOSTON



GROUP OF DELEGATES FROM JAPAN

motor cars through the Boston Fens, through Cambridge and by the Paul Revere route to Lexington and Concord. After the trip the whole party were the guests of Mrs. JOSEPH B. RUSSELL, wife of the President of the Boston Chamber of Commerce, in her Cambridge home.

The members of the Congress reassembled for the second official session at half past two in the afternoon and adjourned at five o'clock.

In the evening the delegates and their wives and daughters assembled in Symphony Hall and listened to a concert by members of the Boston Symphony Orchestra led by GUSTAV STRUBE. The delegates enjoyed a most interesting program made up of selections from the composers of many countries. The delegates were seated at round tables on the floor of the hall and were served with light refreshments during the evening. In the galleries were members of the Boston Chamber of Commerce and their families.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

On Wednesday the third official session lasted from ten until one o'clock.

Between the morning and afternoon sessions an official photograph of the delegates to the Congress was taken in front of the Copley Plaza Hotel. A temporary stand had been erected and on it were seated the something over seven hundred delegates who were present at the time the official photograph was taken. A copy of this photograph was presented to each delegate.

From three until half past four o'clock was devoted to the fourth official session of the Congress.

During Wednesday afternoon the ladies went by automobile for a visit to Wellesley College, where the party was received by Miss ELLEN F. PENDLETON, its president. The visit to the college was followed by a reception in the Italian garden of the Walter Hunnewell estate. Earlier in the day many of the ladies went shopping and took luncheon at the Assembly Club. Another group went for an automobile ride through the Middlesex County towns, stopping on the return trip at the residence of Mr. JAMES J. STORROW in Lincoln.

In the evening there was no official function, the time being set apart for the opportunity of home, club and other intimate gatherings.

At eight o'clock in the evening, Honorable JOHN BARRETT, the Director-General of the Pan-American Union, gave a dinner at the Copley Plaza in honor of the delegates attending the Congress from the Latin-American countries, and Count CANDIDO MENDES DE ALMEIDA, Editor of the "Jornal do Brasil" of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. About seventy guests sat down at round tables in the small ball-room. Mr. Barrett stated that he entertained these delegates in his capacity as the executive officer of the Pan-American Union, an international organization maintained at Washington by all the American Republics for the purpose of developing commerce, friendship and peace among them.

At the American House there was held an informal reunion and dinner by

many of those who made the European tour arranged by the Boston Chamber of Commerce in 1911, together with those delegates whom they met on their journey.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

The fifth and concluding official session opened on Thursday morning at about ten o'clock and adjourned at twenty minutes past one.

In the evening the Congress concluded its official sessions at a great dinner to the President of the United States and all delegates to the Congress in the banquet hall of the Copley Plaza Hotel. Over one thousand men from all parts of the world were seated at the tables for the dinner. The reception started at 6.30 P.M. and each delegate was given an opportunity to meet Honorable WILLIAM H. TAFT, President of the United States. The dinner began promptly at 7.30 P.M. President JOSEPH B. RUSSELL¹ of the Chamber of Commerce presided. The speakers were: On behalf of the United States, Hon. WILLIAM H. TAFT,² President of the United States; on behalf of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Hon. EUGENE N. FOSS,³ Governor of Massachusetts; and on behalf of the City of Boston, Hon. JOHN F. FITZGERALD,⁴ Mayor of Boston. On behalf of our distinguished guests, M. LOUIS CANON-LEGRAND,⁵ President of the Permanent Committee and President of the Fifth International Congress of Chambers of Commerce; Grand Uff. ANGELO SALMOIRAGHI,⁶ President of the Milan Chamber of Commerce, representing the hosts of the Milan Congress; and Mr. F. FAITHFULL BEGG,⁷ Chairman of the Council of the London Chamber of Commerce, representing the hosts of the London Congress. This great dinner in honor of the President of the United States and the delegates, while closing their routine work, was the opening event of the festivities on the eve of the tour of some of the great industrial centers of this country. It brought to a magnificent close the business of the International Congress when the President of the United States congratulated the members upon their work in the sessions, and extended to the visitors a welcome to the country at large on behalf of the people, the government and the Congress of the United States.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Before nine o'clock on Friday morning two hundred automobiles belonging to members of the Boston Chamber of Commerce were lined up in Copley Square. Filled with delegates and members of the Boston Chamber of Com-

¹ For full text of address of President Russell of the Boston Chamber of Commerce, see Appendix, page 291.

² For full text of address of President Taft, see Appendix, page 291.

³ For full text of address of Governor Foss, see Appendix, page 293.

⁴ For full text of address of Mayor Fitzgerald, see Appendix, page 295.

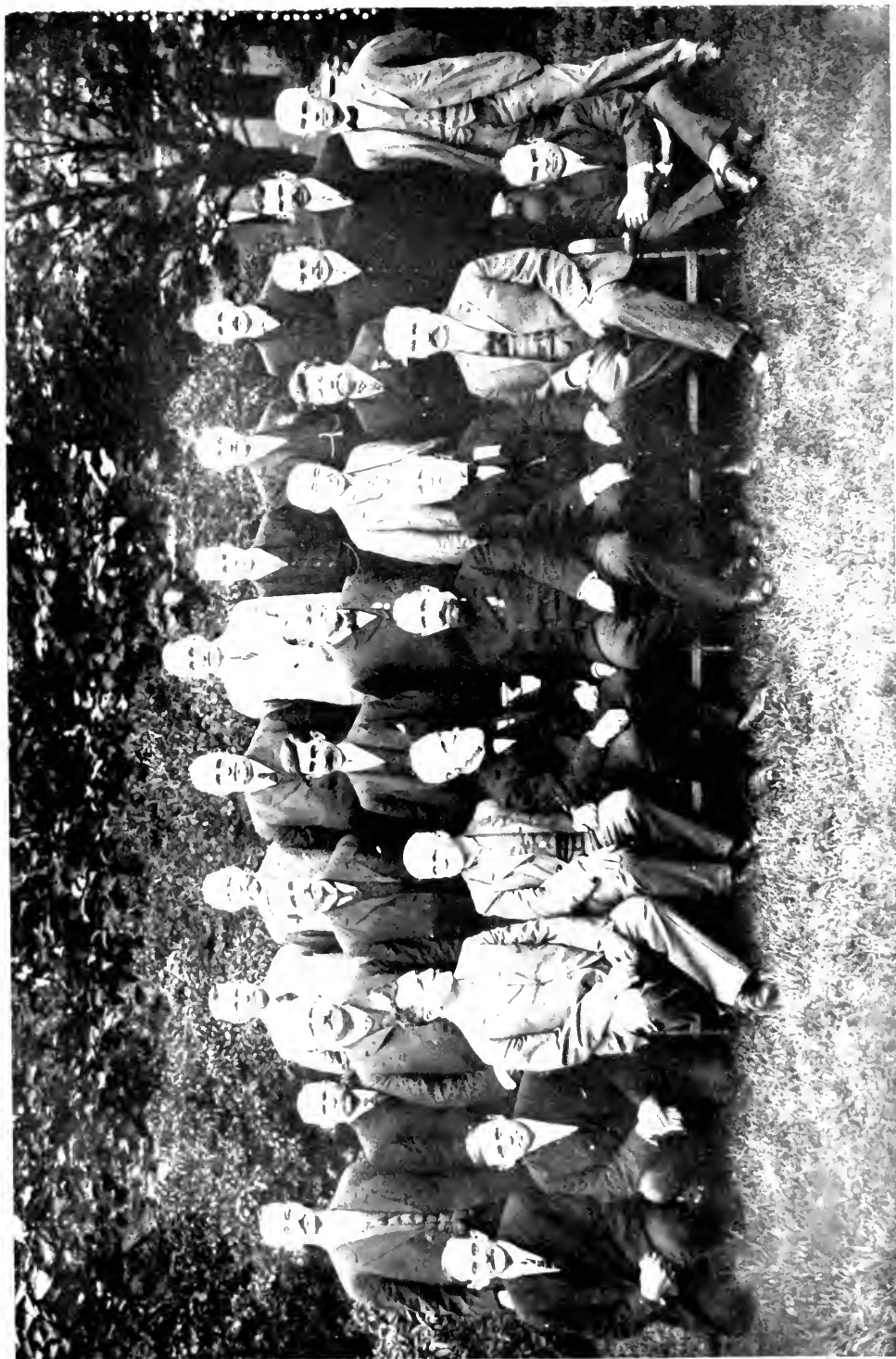
⁵ For full text and translation of address of President Canon-Legrand of the International Congress, see Appendix, page 298.

⁶ For full text of address of Grand Uff. Salmoiraghi, see Appendix, page 300.

⁷ For full text of address of Mr. Begg, see Appendix, page 301.



GROUP OF DELEGATES IN FRONT OF THE COPLEY PLAZA HOTEL



GROUP OF DELEGATES AT THE THOMAS C. PLANT SHOP, FACTORY

Boston, September 27, 1912

merce they left a few at a time from half past nine until half past ten o'clock. A majority of the delegates were taken down the "North Shore," the seashore to the north of Boston famous as a summer resort, where the President of the United States and the diplomatic representatives of many countries have their summer houses. Over five hundred went on this trip. About half of them stopped at Lynn and inspected the plant of the General Electric Company. The rest of the delegates continued on to Beverly to the plant of the United Shoe Machinery Company, where they were met by officials of this organization. The plant was thrown open to the visitors, who traveled through the long, finely lighted buildings gazing with keen interest at the operations of manufacturing shoe machinery.

By the time the plant had been looked over thoroughly, the delegates who had stopped at Lynn began to arrive. The whole party was then taken to the country club, which has been presented by the United Shoe Machinery Company to its employees. On the athletic field a large rectangular tent had been erected where luncheon was served to the delegates. In the early afternoon delegates were taken on an automobile tour along the picturesque "North Shore."

On Friday the delegates who did not make the North Shore trip divided into three groups and went on the following special excursions: One party, arranged under the auspices of the Waltham Board of Trade, went to Waltham to inspect the plant of the Waltham Watch Company. Another group, under the auspices of the New England Shoe and Leather Association, went on a long automobile tour about the city, concluding with an inspection of the Thomas G. Plant Shoe Factory, at Roxbury. Another group, under the auspices of the Lowell Board of Trade, made the journey to inspect the Lowell Textile School and a visit to some of the important textile mills at Lowell.

A special trip was arranged for the ladies. They went in automobiles through the North Shore country to Cape Ann, where they were entertained in Gloucester at the home of Mr. and Mrs. JOHN HAYS HAMMOND.

In the evening various theater parties and special entertainments were arranged.

Delegates who remained at the Copley Plaza Hotel were given the most spectacular entertainment of their visit, and in this the general public shared. At 8.30 P.M., with a wild clatter of hoofs, a clanging of bells and shrieks of siren whistles, apparatus of the Boston Fire Department was rushed into Copley Square. Engines were coupled to hydrants and began to pump, hose was run through the streets, ladders were thrown against the Copley Plaza Hotel and buildings opposite on the Square. The water-tower was run up near the Public Library. The delegates were given a concrete illustration of how a fire is handled in Boston, but there was no fire.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

At ten o'clock on Saturday morning the delegates boarded the steamer "Rose Standish" for an inspection of Boston harbor. The trip was first made around the inner harbor, and the first landing was made at the terminals and docks of the Boston & Albany Railroad. Then the trip was continued to the outer harbor and the delegates were taken to the yards of the Fore River Ship Building Company at Quincy, where they were entertained at luncheon. The return was made through the outer harbor and then by the main ship channel to Rowe's Wharf.

Delegates were taken in electric cars from the wharf to the Mechanics' Building for a private view of the Boston 1912 Electric Show at four o'clock. This was a really notable electric exposition, and the private opening afforded an exceptional opportunity to inspect the various exhibits.

On Saturday afternoon a group of delegates were the guests of the Harvard Athletic Association at the football game in the Harvard Stadium between Harvard University and the University of Maine.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

On Sunday morning a private opening of the Boston Art Museum at eleven o'clock was attended by large groups of the delegates. In the afternoon at half past two the delegates left the Copley Plaza Hotel in automobiles for a trip through the Boston and Metropolitan Park systems. The evening was given over to farewells.

At about half past nine o'clock on Monday morning about four hundred of the delegates left Boston in three special trains for a tour of some of the principal commercial and industrial centers of the United States.

Tour of the United States

THE American tour of the foreign delegates at the conclusion of the official sessions in Boston was one of the most notable as well as one of the most pleasant features of the Congress. The delegates taking this tour represented practically every nation on the globe and formed by far the largest and most cosmopolitan gathering of business men of the world ever taking a long railroad journey together. The Committee on Tour, representing the Boston Chamber of Commerce, arranged an itinerary which afforded a remarkable opportunity for inspecting some of the most important commercial and industrial enterprises of the United States and for impressing upon the distinguished guests the efficiency and stability of the enterprises, as well as affording a concrete impression of the wonderful resources of this country.

Altogether about four hundred persons left Boston on the special trains, and over three hundred of this number completed the journey. In this number were forty-three women, wives and daughters of some of the delegates.

The delegates visited ten of the principal cities of the United States and traveled some 2250 miles in a period of three weeks. Special trains left Boston on Monday morning, September 30, and arrived in New York on Thursday morning, October 17. The entertainment in New York occupied two days, and the party finally broke up on Saturday, October 19, 1912.

The Passenger Department of the Boston & Albany Railroad arranged the details relating to the transportation of the whole journey. Six different traffic lines were used, — the Boston & Albany Railroad; the New York Central & Hudson River Railroad; Michigan Central Railroad; Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago and St. Louis Railway; the Pennsylvania Company and the Pennsylvania Railroad. The first four of these roads were parts of the New York Central Lines, while the latter two were parts of the Pennsylvania system.

Every delegate was supplied with an itinerary book, prepared and published by the Boston & Albany Railroad, containing the time-table of the tour, the names of every person in the party of delegates and the names of the Committee on Tour. This booklet also contained a map of the United States showing the route of the tour of the party. The special trains were placed at the disposal of foreign delegates by the Boston Chamber of Commerce. Each city which was visited, however, bore a share of the expense.

The party left Boston at about half past nine on Monday morning, Sep-

tember 30. Three special trains were used at the commencement of the journey. The first section had nine stateroom cars and a buffet library car. The second section had ten stateroom cars and a buffet library car. The third section had eight stateroom cars and a buffet library car. Altogether there were thirty-two cars for the commencement of the journey. Inasmuch as the trip from Worcester to Buffalo was to be made during the following night, the trains in which the party left Boston were composed entirely of stateroom and drawing-room cars. These cars constituted the most luxurious form of car for night travel now in operation in the United States. The trip from Boston to Worcester was forty-five miles in length and occupied about one hour's time.

WORCESTER

In Worcester the delegates were the guests of the Worcester Board of Trade. The four hundred delegates entertained there were divided into five groups and taken about the principal industries and points of interest in the city in one hundred and fifty automobiles contributed by citizens. The ladies were entertained by the members of the Worcester Woman's Club. Delegates in each group were luncheon guests at one o'clock of the following: Hon. JAMES LOGAN, General Manager of the United States Envelope Company; Mr. MATTHEW J. WHITTALL; THE NORTON COMPANY; and the ROYAL WORCESTER CORSET COMPANY. At the conclusion of the afternoon tours the delegates were guests at a complimentary banquet in the State Armory, under the patronage of the Commonwealth attended by Lieutenant-Governor ROBERT LUCE, members of the Governor's Staff and Council and other state and city officials, concluding at nine o'clock in the evening, when the delegates resumed their western journey.

The delegates arrived in Buffalo at twenty minutes past ten the following morning. The distance covered during the night was 453 miles. In the morning two dining cars were attached to each of the three sections, and the delegates took breakfast on the trains before their arrival in Buffalo.

BUFFALO

In Buffalo the delegates were the guests of the Buffalo Chamber of Commerce. The delegates were met by a special committee from this organization and were immediately taken in taxicabs to their hotels, where rooms had been previously assigned to them.

In the afternoon a large number of the delegates visited some of the great manufacturing plants for which Buffalo is noted. Others made a tour of the parkways and principal streets of Buffalo ending at the Country Club, where a polo game was played, the competing teams representing the Country Clubs of Buffalo and Toronto. In the evening a dinner was given at the Lafayette Hotel

by over one hundred of Buffalo's most distinguished business men and Chamber of Commerce members.

At the same time the women of the party were entertained at dinner at the Twentieth Century Club for Women, followed by a theater party at the Teck Theatre.

At 9.20 o'clock Wednesday morning, October 2, the guests left for Niagara Falls, where most of the day was spent in inspecting the hydro-electric plants, the great cataracts and the factories. This short trip between Buffalo and Niagara Falls was made in New York Central day coaches for the purpose of showing the delegates this form of travel in the United States.

The delegates arrived at Niagara Falls at ten minutes past ten and went immediately to inspect the plant of the Niagara Power Company. The entire party then took the trip of something over twenty miles on the Niagara Gorge Railroad. This railroad affords the best opportunity of seeing the wonderful Niagara Gorge just below the great cataract. The cars on the Niagara Gorge Railroad were placed at the disposal of the delegates through the courtesy of the Boston and Buffalo Chambers of Commerce. Luncheon was taken at the International Hotel, and the afternoon was devoted to further inspection of the industrial plants. At five o'clock the delegates left Niagara Falls for Detroit. The distance is 229 miles, and the trains reached Detroit shortly after ten o'clock in the evening. This part of the journey was made in chair cars of the Pullman Company.

DETROIT

In Detroit the delegates were the guests of the Detroit Board of Commerce. A committee of the Board met the party at Niagara Falls, and en route to Detroit the delegates were presented with souvenir booklets of Detroit. Arriving in Detroit the visitors were met by members of the Entertainment Committee and were taken in special street-cars to their respective hotels.

The following morning at ten o'clock the entire party was taken in automobiles to Grosse Pointe and Belle Isle. One hundred and thirty-eight automobiles were required to convey the foreign delegates and the one hundred members of the Board of Commerce Entertainment Committee. From Belle Isle the automobile cavalcade moved along East Grand Boulevard to the Packard Motor Company's plant, where a group photograph of the delegates was made. The Packard Motor Company entertained the party at a very delightful luncheon and concert by the Packard band. During the luncheon the delegates were presented with morocco-bound booklets by the Packard Company. After luncheon the delegates were taken on a trip of inspection through the Packard factories. At half past three the delegates entered their automobiles again and were driven to the Burroughs Adding Machine Company's plant, where they made a trip of inspection and received handsome souvenir ash trays and leather portfolios. In the evening a banquet in honor of the delegates was held at Hotel Pontchartrain.

On the following morning, Friday, October 4, the delegates visited whichever of the manufacturing plants they had elected to visit on their way from Buffalo. At noon the entire party gathered and boarded the Steamer "Britannia," which made a trip up into Lake Saint Clair, and then back and down the Detroit River, returning and landing near the railroad station at half past three o'clock. Luncheon was served on board. After luncheon the two orchestras supplied music for those who wished to dance. A splendid exhibition by the fire boat "James Battle" was given for the entertainment of the guests.

A special Woman's Committee arranged special entertainment for the ladies accompanying the delegates. On October 3 a reception was given at the Hotel Pontchartrain at eleven in the morning, and following this an automobile ride, stopping at the Detroit Club for luncheon. At four o'clock there was a reception at the Twentieth Century Club. There was a special dinner at the Hotel Pontchartrain followed by a theater party at the Detroit Opera House. On Friday the ladies joined the boat trip on the "Britannia."

On disembarking the entire party at once boarded the special chair-car trains of the Pullman Company and left Detroit for Chicago at four o'clock on Friday afternoon, October 4. The distance from Detroit to Chicago is 285 miles, and the special trains reached Chicago at about half past ten on the evening of Friday, October 4.

CHICAGO

The delegates were met at the trains by the Chicago committee and escorted to their hotels. In Chicago the delegates were the guests of the Chicago Association of Commerce and the Chicago Board of Trade, in co-operation with other business associations and business men of the City of Chicago.

The schedule of the entertainment in Chicago was as follows:

Saturday:

- Visit to Board of Trade.
- Luncheon at Hotel La Salle.
- Football game.
- Banquet at Congress Hotel.

Sunday:

- Church services.
- Automobile tour of parks and boulevards.
- Dinner, informal, at South Shore Country Club.

Monday:

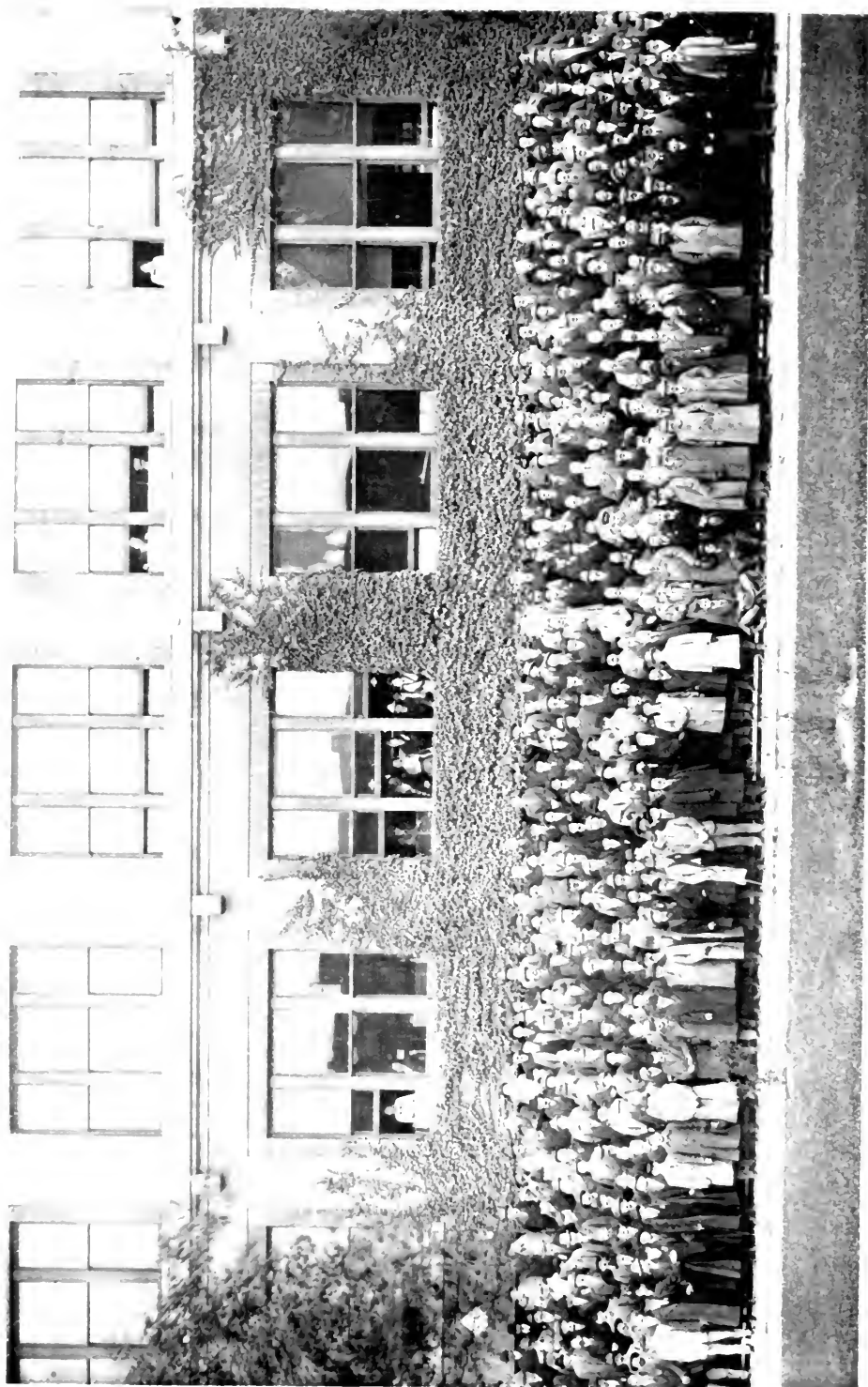
- Excursions to: Union Stock-Yards.
- Steel Works at Gary.
- Western Electric Company works.
- Art Institute, Public Library and Department Stores.
- Hull House.
- Sears, Roebuck & Company plant.



GROUP OF DELEGATES AT HOME OF EX MAYOR JAMES LOGAN
Worcester, Mass., September 30, 1912



DINNER OF MEMBERS OF COSMOPOLITAN CLUB
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, October 11, 1912



DELEGATES AT FACTORY OF PACKARD MOTOR CAR COMPANY, DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Luncheon to women of delegation by Chicago Woman's Club.
Afternoon tea to the women at store of Marshall Field & Company.
Luncheon by the packing interests to 250 delegates, Florentine Room, Congress Hotel, before departure for stock-yards.
Farewell dinner at Hotel Blackstone.

The first day of the stay in Chicago began with a visit to the Board of Trade, the world's largest grain and provision exchange, where opportunity was given the visitors to view the famous wheat pit in operation. Following the inspection of the Board of Trade the delegation was entertained at luncheon at the Hotel La Salle, being welcomed by the Hon. CARTER H. HARRISON, Mayor of Chicago, and President EUGENE U. KIMBARK of the Chicago Association of Commerce. President CANON-LEGRAND of the International Congress replied for the delegation. After luncheon the party was taken by automobiles to witness a football game between the Universities of Chicago and Indiana at the Chicago University football grounds. In the evening the delegates attended a formal banquet given in their honor by the combined Chicago organizations in the Gold Room, Congress Hotel, and were addressed by the Honorable CHARLES S. DENEEN, Governor of Illinois, and others. M. CANON-LEGRAND, President of the International Congress, replied for the delegation.

Sunday morning the visitors were at liberty to attend such religious services as they preferred and after luncheon were taken on an automobile tour of Chicago's boulevards and parks, a ride of some thirty-five miles, ending at the South Shore Country Club, where an informal dinner was served.

On Monday the delegation divided itself into various parties, selecting such industrial trips, previously planned, as appealed to them, visits being made by special trains to the Union Stock-Yards, the great steel works at Gary, and by automobile to the large plant of the Western Electric Company at Hawthorne. Other parties visited the Art Institute, the Chicago Public Library and the leading department stores. Those interested in settlement work were given an opportunity to explore Hull House and were informally entertained by Miss JANE ADDAMS at afternoon tea. The offices and establishment of Sears, Roebuck & Company, said to be almost the last word in organization and efficiency, were visited by another party. On Monday the women of the delegation were given a luncheon by the women of Chicago at the Woman's Club, and were later entertained by Marshall Field & Company at their retail establishment. Preceding the trip to the Stock-Yards, which was taken by some 250 of the delegates, the packing interests entertained the party at luncheon in the Florentine Room, Congress Hotel.

On Monday evening the three days' visit ended with an informal dinner at the Blackstone Hotel, which formally concluded Chicago's duty as host, but the personal and informal hospitality did not finish until the last of the delegates' special trains left Park Row Station for Cincinnati a little before midnight.

On leaving Chicago, Monday evening, the delegates took the second and

last night-journey of the entire tour. This night-journey was made in the same compartment cars previously used between Worcester and Buffalo. The distance to Cincinnati is 304 miles, and the delegates arrived at half past seven on the morning of Tuesday, October 8.

CINCINNATI

In Cincinnati the delegates were the guests of the Joint Committee of the Cincinnati Business Men's Club, the Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce and the Cincinnati Commercial Association. The Reception Committee met the party at the station and escorted them to their hotels in automobiles.

At ten o'clock in the morning the delegates were met at the Hotel Sinton and taken on an automobile ride about the city, visiting Eaton Park, Walnut Hills, Avondale and Clifton. At one o'clock luncheon was served at the Country Club. In the afternoon automobiles were placed at the disposal of the visitors, and special trips were taken to the Art Museum, the Zoo and to the Rookwood Pottery and various other factories and business houses. At half past six in the evening a banquet was tendered all the delegates at the Business Men's Club.

At half past eight on Wednesday morning, October 9, the delegates were escorted to the trains in automobiles. At nine o'clock the special trains, made up of chair cars of the Pullman Company, left Cincinnati for Dayton. The distance is 56 miles, and the delegates arrived in Dayton at quarter of eleven.

DAYTON

In Dayton the delegates were the guests of the Dayton Chamber of Commerce and the National Cash Register Company. A reception committee from the Dayton Chamber of Commerce went to Cincinnati to meet the delegates. At the Union Station flags of all nations were flying. Thousands of Daytonians greeted the distinguished visitors. Automobiles were waiting to carry the foreign friends over the principal down-town streets, out to the National Cash Register Company's plant. Across the streets, at intervals of thirty feet or thereabouts, streamers reminded the visitors of their native lands. The flags of the nations of the world bespoke Dayton's welcome.

In honor of the occasion the schools in the down-town district were dismissed, and the school children lined the streets. In every right hand was a kerchief or an American flag.

The National Cash Register Company's buildings were bedecked with large and handsome flags. Every one of the sixty-three hundred employees stood with flag in hand, and a mighty shout of greeting went up when the cars passed. A luncheon was served at twelve o'clock in the Officers' Club of the National Cash Register Company on the ninth floor of the Office Building, where six hundred

and more dined together, and was followed by an inspiring meeting in the Hall of Industrial Education. There was told the story of Dayton, the story of the Wright Brothers who conquered the air and the story of the National Cash Register Company. These stories were painted by word and picture.

The stay in Dayton lasted six hours. At half past three the autos returned to the station, and the Citizens' Committee of One Hundred, the Bicycle Club, the members of the Welfare Department of the National Cash Register Company and the Committee from the Dayton Chamber of Commerce were present to say farewell. At four o'clock the trains pulled out of Dayton for Pittsburgh. The distance is 261 miles, and the delegates reached Pittsburgh shortly after ten o'clock in the evening.

PITTSBURGH

Several members of the Pittsburgh Committee met the trains on route and other members of the Committee were at the Union Station and escorted the delegates to their hotels in special street-cars. The delegates were the guests of the Chamber of Commerce and the City of Pittsburgh.

On Thursday, October 10, the delegates boarded the Steamer "Sunshine" at ten o'clock in the morning and were taken on a daylight trip on the rivers past "miles of mills," landing at Munhall. The delegates were taken in a special train on a tour of inspection of the great steel mills at Homestead. The delegates boarded the boat again in front of the works, and luncheon was served on the river. The delegates landed at Monongahela Wharf at four o'clock in the afternoon. In the evening a banquet was tendered the delegates at the Fort Pitt Hotel, after which special street-cars took the delegates to the Pittsburgh Exposition and concert by the Thomas Orchestra.

The next day the delegates were taken for an inspection of the Carnegie Institute Museum, Art Galleries, Sculpture and Music Halls, and the Carnegie Institute of Technology. This was followed by an inspection of the Heinz Pickling and Preserving plant, where luncheon was served. An automobile tour was taken through the residential section of the city. One hundred and fifty automobiles were employed, escorted by special police on motor cycles. In the evening there was a reception and dance at the Hotel Schenley.

On Saturday morning, October 12, the delegates were escorted to the special chair-car trains which left Pittsburgh at nine o'clock for Washington. The distance is 369 miles, and the trains reached Washington at about half past six in the evening. This all day trip on the chair cars was a very interesting feature of the tour and was the only considerable daylight journey. The trains passed through very diversified country. The splendid views in the mountainous country, the trip around the Horse-Shoe Curve and the brief stops at Altoona, Harrisburg and Baltimore constituted altogether a most interesting day.

WASHINGTON

In Washington the delegates were the guests of the Washington Chamber of Commerce. They were met at the Union Station at Washington and escorted to their hotels.

On Sunday morning, October 13, the delegates were taken in sight-seeing automobiles on a tour of the city. In the afternoon the United States Capitol, the Corcoran Gallery of Art, the National Museum and the Library of Congress were specially opened.

On Monday morning the White House was opened for the delegates for two hours. In the afternoon the delegates were taken on a steamboat ride down the Potomac to Mount Vernon, the home and tomb of George Washington. In the evening there was a reception in the Hall of the Americas in the splendid building of the Pan-American Union.

On Tuesday morning the delegates were taken to the station in auto cars. The trains left Washington for Philadelphia at half past nine. The distance to Philadelphia is 136 miles, and the delegates arrived there about quarter of one.

PHILADELPHIA

In Philadelphia the delegates were the guests of the commercial organizations of the city. The following named commercial bodies participated: Board of Trade, Bourse, Builders' Exchange, Chamber of Commerce, Commercial Exchange, Commercial Museum, Drug Exchange, Grocers & Importers' Exchange, Hardware Merchants and Manufacturers' Association, Lumbermen's Exchange, Manufacturers' Club, Maritime Exchange and the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association.

The delegates walked from the Broad Street Station to Wanamaker's, where the whole party was the guest of Mr. John Wanamaker at luncheon. In the afternoon the party was taken to the Commercial Museum. In the evening the delegates were guests at various theater parties and a large number of them inspected some of the newspaper printing machinery of the city.

On Wednesday, October 16, there was a visit to Independence Hall after which the delegates boarded a river steamer and visited the Navy Yard and the yards of the New York Shipbuilding Company and Cramp & Sons. From Cramps' the party went through Stetson's and the Baldwin Locomotive Works, and thence to the Philadelphia Country Club where they were guests at dinner of Mr. Frank D. La Lanne.

On Thursday morning, October 17, the special Pullman chair-car trains left the Broad Street Station at nine o'clock for New York City. The distance is 92 miles, and the delegates reached New York City at about eleven o'clock in the morning.



LUIGI SOLARI

President Italian Chamber of Commerce of
New York



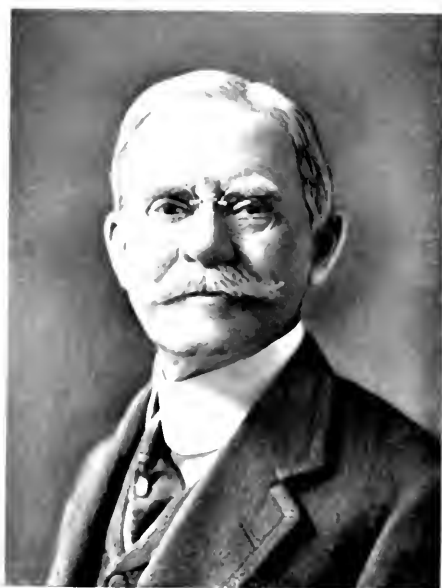
CHARLES C. HOYT

President New England Shoe and Leather As-
sociation



DR. W. P. WILSON

Director Philadelphia Commercial Museum



JOHN H. PATTERSON

President National Cash Register Company



DINNER BY FOREIGN DELEGATES IN HONOR OF BOSTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
New York City, October 19, 1912

NEW YORK CITY

The delegates were met at the Pennsylvania terminal by the New York committees and escorted to their hotels. In New York City the delegates were the guests of the commercial organizations of that city, namely:

The Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York
The Merchants' Association of New York
The New York Produce Exchange
The New York Stock Exchange
The New York Cotton Exchange
The Consolidated Stock Exchange of New York
The Coffee Exchange of the City of New York
The Italian Chamber of Commerce of New York
The Swedish Chamber of Commerce of New York
The Netherlands Chamber of Commerce of America
The City Club of New York
American Manufacturers' Export Association
Silk Association of America
The Pan-American Society

At half past two in the afternoon the foreign guests accompanied by the Reception Committee were taken on an automobile tour of the principal points of interest in New York City as far north as 156th Street and Riverside Drive and as far south as Washington Square, including a ride through the historic Central Park, on Riverside Drive, Fifth Avenue and Broadway. In the evening the spectacle "Under Many Flags" at the Hippodrome was witnessed. That performance was chosen for the foreign visitors because its action covers many countries. Automobile transportation between the hotels and the theater was provided.

On Friday morning, October 18, at half past nine, the foreign delegates accompanied by a part of the Reception Committee were escorted to the City Recreation Pier, East River and 24th Street, on a short but interesting ride through the shopping section to the East Side of the city. At that point the Hudson River Day Line Steamer "Hendrick Hudson" was boarded. On the steamer, which is the largest river craft in the world, accommodating as it does over 5,500 passengers, opportunity was afforded the members of the different organizations to meet the delegates. The trip on the water covered a sail under the East River bridges, past the Battery, Governor's Island and the Bush Terminal, across New York Bay, in view of the Staten Island shore, through the Upper Bay, in sight of Bedloe's and Ellis Islands and the Statue of Liberty, thence up the Hudson (North) River to Spuyten Duyvil, returning, with a view of both sides of the river, to the pier at the foot of Cedar Street.

Escorted by the entire Reception Committee, all the delegates walked the short distance to the building of the Chamber of Commerce at 65 Liberty Street,

where, after an address of welcome by Mr. JOHN CLAFLIN, President, an elaborate luncheon was served. The ladies accompanying the foreign delegates were taken in taxicabs from the pier to the Chamber of Commerce Building, where luncheon was served to them in the committee rooms. After luncheon an automobile ride through the crowded down-town district was taken to the United Engineering Societies' Building at 29 West 39th Street, in the auditorium of which exercises were held to express New York's appreciation of the honor the delegates conferred upon the city by visiting it, and to convey appropriate messages of international good will on the conclusion of the American tour of the foreign delegates.

CONCLUSION

In the evening the foreign delegates tendered a dinner at Sherry's to the Boston Committee on Tour. Practically the entire party was in attendance. The delegates from all lands vied with each other in the tributes to the Boston Chamber of Commerce for the splendid way in which the Fifth International Congress of Chambers of Commerce had been conducted. This dinner marked the close of the tour, although the foreign delegates were entertained informally, and many of them before leaving the country made special trips to the southern and western parts of the United States, which, on account of the distance, it had been impossible to include in the itinerary of the official tour.

On Saturday evening, October 19, 1912, the Italian Chamber of Commerce in New York celebrated its Twenty-Fifth Anniversary by tendering a dinner at the Waldorf Astoria to all the Italian delegates in attendance at the Fifth International Congress of Chambers of Commerce.

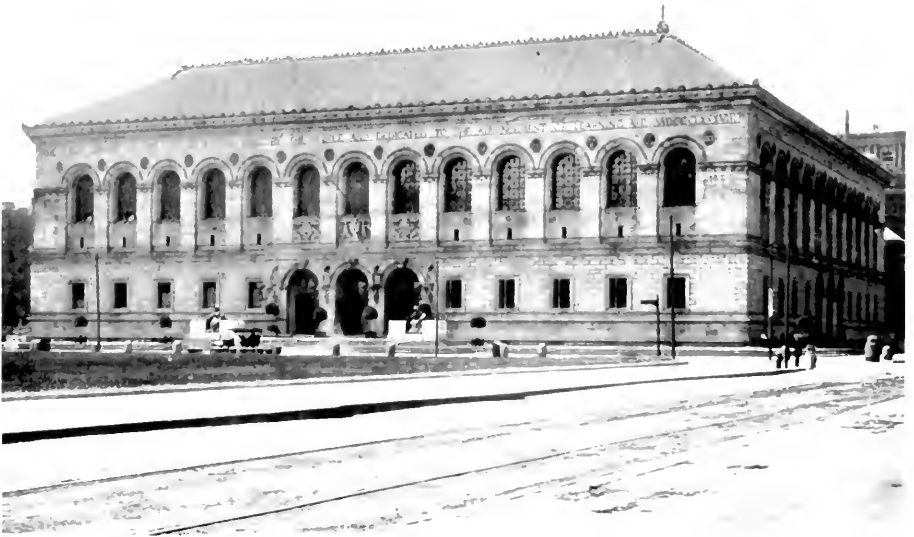
One of the very interesting phases of this tour was the organization of a Cosmopolitan Club composed of members from practically every nation represented at the Congress. The purpose of this club is to encourage the largest possible attendance at the biennial sessions of the International Congresses of Chambers of Commerce, and to promote and encourage international good fellowship and co-operation among its members.



BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF BOSTON



COPLEY PLAZA HOTEL, COPLEY SQUARE, BOSTON
Headquarters of Fifth International Congress



BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY, COPLEY SQUARE

Boston

Boston, where the Fifth International Congress of Chambers of Commerce held its sessions, is one of the oldest and most important cities and has always been one of the chief commercial, industrial and financial centers in the United States of America.

Metropolitan Boston, the great urban community at the head of Massachusetts Bay, has over 1,500,000 inhabitants, and in population ranks as the fourth city of the United States and the tenth city of the world.

Boston is the capital city of the State of Massachusetts, one of the thirteen colonies which originally formed the Republic. It is the principal seaport and metropolis of the section known as "New England," which consists of a compact group of six states forming the northeastern part of the country.

Boston is situated on that portion of the Atlantic Ocean known as Massachusetts Bay. The inner city — the municipality officially named "Boston" — occupies the peninsula which was first settled, and a portion of the land adjoining, which has been united with the older city at different periods by the annexation of other communities. Municipal Boston has a population of about 700,000 people. Metropolitan Boston, the real city, with its population in 1909 of 1,520,470, comprises forty municipalities, which are included in a circle extending back from the shore line within a radius of about twelve miles.

The relations of this metropolis to the city itself are, except in political respects, like those of the British metropolis to the old city of London. Socially, commercially and industrially, the interests of the forty communities are closely interwoven. Almost the entire district is thickly populated, and the lines of division between the communities are merely arbitrary. There are metropolitan park, water and sewerage systems under unified control, serving most of these cities and towns. They all are included in one postal district, and most of them are served by one system of electric street railway transportation. The essential unity of the entire district is well recognized.

COMMERCE AND HARBOR

Boston is a world port ranking in the United States second only to New York in its imports. With the diminishing export of foodstuffs from the United States the exports of Boston have decreased, with the result that in the total volume of all foreign trade Boston is the fourth port of the country.

Boston is one hundred ninety-four miles nearer Europe than any other large American port, and it is nearer to all the east coast of South America south of the Amazon, including such ports as Rio de Janeiro, Montevideo and Buenos Aires, than is New York, Philadelphia, Galveston or any other North American port.

Boston has one of the finest natural harbors in the world, with broad roadsteads sheltered from rough water by numerous islands. It has wide, safe approaches from the ocean, and Boston Light, the outer edge of the harbor, is less than an hour's run from the steamship piers. The channels from the open sea to the piers are dredged to a depth of thirty-five feet at low water, and in the near future will be dredged to a depth of forty feet. The three outer channels converge into a main ship channel which communicates with all parts of the inner harbor.

Two years ago the legislature created a board of five Port Directors appointed by the State and city and having jurisdiction over Boston harbor. In the initial law creating the Board it was given an appropriation of \$9,000,000 to be expended in building docks and other water-front improvements. This Board is now actively engaged in constructing improvements at various parts of the harbor and in making plans for future improvements. Commonwealth Pier, 1,200 feet long and 400 feet wide, with a depth alongside of 40 feet at mean low water, has already been equipped and opened at an expense of \$2,500,000. This pier is one of the most up-to-date and best equipped piers in America, with accommodations for the largest liners now afloat. The Port Directors have completed plans for a huge dry-dock, to be constructed at an expense of \$3,000,000 and capable of accommodating any steamship afloat or yet projected. For the accommodation of the great fishing fleet a new pier 1,200 feet long and 300 feet wide has been recently completed.

Previous to the creation of the Board of Port Directors, Boston had very excellent docks and harbor accommodations privately owned. The present terminal of the Boston & Albany Railroad Company at East Boston includes several of the finest piers on the Atlantic coast, a grain elevator with a capacity of one million bushels, direct track connections and modern devices for loading and unloading vessels and cars. The Boston & Maine Railroad owns the Hoosac and Mystic docks at Charlestown with some twelve piers capable of accommodating ocean liners. The grain elevator at Hoosac docks has a capacity of one million bushels, while that at the Mystic docks has a capacity of half a million bushels. The New Haven Railroad owns three piers at South Boston. At present in Boston there is a lineal frontage of over forty miles of berth space, of which over six miles front on a depth of at least thirty feet at low water.

Many transatlantic and coastwise steamship lines have terminals at Boston. In addition to the numerous steamship lines which give frequent regular direct connection with all the important coast cities of the Atlantic, both in the United States and Canada, there are some twenty-four foreign lines which have regular sailings to or from the port of Boston. These steamship lines main-



STEAMSHIP DOCKS AT EAST BOSTON



HEAD HOUSE, COMMONWEALTH PIER, SOUTH BOSTON



FISHING FLEET AT T WHARF, BOSTON



STATE BATHHOUSE AT REVERE

In Metropolitan Boston

tain regular sailings to and from English, North European, Mediterranean, West Indian, South American and Far Eastern ports. In the past year or two the facilities for transatlantic passenger travel between Boston and Europe have been greatly improved, and the number of transatlantic passengers sailing from and to Boston has increased at a very rapid rate.

The imports of Boston are principally raw materials for the industries of the New England states. The principal commodities imported are wool, cotton, hides and skins, burlaps, fibers and vegetable grasses, sugar and machinery. The chief articles of export from Boston are meat, breadstuffs and grain, cotton, machinery, steel, boots and shoes and leather, and miscellaneous manufactured products.

For the year ending June 30, 1912, the value of the foreign trade of Boston was \$234,918,975, of which \$153,671,165 were imports and \$81,247,810 were exports.

TRANSPORTATION

Boston is the terminal of three great railroad systems. All parts of New England are closely connected with Boston by highly developed transportation facilities. A complex network of steam railroads, electric railways, steamboat lines and excellent highways center about Boston as a metropolis. As in almost all parts of the country, the transportation facilities by rail and water are privately owned. The important highways are controlled by the state and local roads by the communities through which they run.

The local transportation system communicating with the different parts of Metropolitan Boston is the finest in America, with inter-connecting subway, surface and elevated lines. Three subways and one tunnel under the harbor are now in operation and three new subways are under construction.

INDUSTRIES

Boston is the great center of the textile industry in the United States. It is the greatest wool market in the Western Hemisphere. It is the unquestioned leader in the production of boots, shoes and leather. It is the leading center for shoe and textile machinery. It is most important in the production of electrical machinery and foundry and machine-shop products. It has large plants for the production of watches, confectionery, cocoa, chocolates, rubber and elastic goods. It has important printing, publishing, electrical, gas, clothing and packing establishments. It has large establishments for the refining of sugar and molasses and for slaughtering and meat packing. It is the greatest fresh-fish market in the Western Hemisphere and with one exception in the world. It has great ship-building works where modern battleships and other vessels are constantly under construction. In 1911 the value of manufactured products of Metropolitan Boston reached the total of \$502,527,771.

And this is only a small part of the story. For a correct understanding of

Boston as an industrial center it must also be remembered that it is the metropolis and chief port of New England. Many of the great industrial plants of New England have their headquarters and transact their principal business in Boston, even though the manufacturing plants themselves are located in other parts of New England. New England is more intensely developed as an industrial region than any other part of America. With one-eleventh of the population of the country, it turns out one-seventh of the manufactured products. Most of its manufactures are high-grade staple articles which are needed in increasing quantities in South American countries and in the Far East. These industries also use large quantities of raw materials which can be advantageously purchased from those countries.

The textile industries are the most important of the industries of New England. The leadership of the section in these industries is unquestioned. More than \$650,000,000 is invested in textile mills which make a variety of cotton, woolen, worsted, felt, linen, silk, knit goods, cordage and twine and many other woven products. Many of the greatest mills are within a few hours' travel of Boston and have their offices in the city. The value of the textile products of the mills of New England annually exceeds \$600,000,000.

The making of boots and shoes by machinery and the manufacture of the machines to make the shoes originated in New England. In 1909, 136,962,674 pairs of boots and shoes, with a value of \$300,000,000 were made in this section. There are 1,000 factories engaged in various branches of this industry, located in more than one hundred different cities and towns. The great bulk of the product, in fact practically all, comes from factories located within fifty miles of Boston. Through the United Shoe Machinery Company, with a great factory at Beverly, this section leads the world in the manufacture of the machines used in making shoes.

New England has long been famous for its machinery. There is hardly an industry dependent upon machinery in which will not be found some machines invented in New England. This section leads the United States in the making of foundry and machine-shop products. The total value of its foundry and machine-shop products is about \$200,000,000 annually.

The supremacy of New England in the production of fine writing paper made chiefly from rags is well known. Holyoke, Massachusetts, alone makes over one-half the nation's supply of good writing paper. The value of the paper made in New England is about \$100,000,000 annually.

Jewelry is made extensively in a small area at the border between Massachusetts and Rhode Island. The value of the jewelry produced in this district reaches \$35,000,000 a year.

Besides the industries noted above, New England leads in the production of wire goods, cutlery, firearms, ammunition, brass and bronze products, rubber goods, marble, clocks, watches, plated ware, rolled copper, silverware and silk goods. It has an important place in many other industries and leads in the production of many other commodities, almost all of high grade.



PLANT OF THE WALTHAM WATCH COMPANY
In Metropolitan Boston



PLANT OF THE THOMAS G. PLANT SHOE COMPANY, BOSTON



PLANT OF THE UNITED SHOE MACHINERY COMPANY



Copyright by A. B. Smith

WOOD WORSTED MILLS AT LAWRENCE

There are 25,351 industrial establishments in New England, giving employment to 1,212,158 wage earners. The capital invested in these industries is \$2,503,854,000. There are paid to the employees each year \$669,915,000 in salaries and wages. The value of the goods manufactured in New England reaches the enormous annual total of \$2,670,065,000.

FINANCIAL CENTER

Boston is an important financial center. Its per capita wealth is greater than any other city of the United States. It is said to be, next to New York, the richest trade center of the country. One-twentieth of the savings of the American people is in the savings banks of Boston. It has a stock exchange which is the center for trade in the shares of copper mines, and on which large transactions of all kinds are affected. In 1911 there was on deposit in its banks and trust companies about \$500,000,000. Its clearing-house exchanges in 1911 reached the enormous total of \$8,339,718,582. Boston capital has built many of the railroads of the western United States, and to-day is heavily invested in mining and other developments. The total valuation of the metropolitan city, including forty communities, is \$2,279,606,065.

EDUCATION

Boston is now, as it always has been, recognized as the leading center of education in America. Harvard University is one of the oldest American universities and is recognized as the leading educational institution of the United States. It is principally located in Cambridge, just across the Charles River from Municipal Boston. Its grounds are extensive and its buildings numerous and interesting. They include several museums which contain notable collections, and the Stadium, an enormous concrete structure built on the plan of the Colosseum at Rome, where intercollegiate contests are held. The university has 6,000 students, including those in summer-school and extension courses, and in Radcliffe, which is the women's college allied with Harvard. In addition to the college and Radcliffe, the university has medical and law schools, each widely known; graduate schools of applied science, arts and sciences and business administration; divinity and dental schools, an arboretum, botanic garden and observatory. The magnificent new buildings of the medical school are near the Fenway, within Municipal Boston.

Another educational institution known throughout the world is the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the leading American school of applied sciences, founded in 1861. Its buildings are at present in the center of the city, but it has recently received donations of several millions of dollars with which to build on a new site on the bank of the Charles River Basin. The Institute receives an annual grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The total number of students is 1,500, representing 30 nations.

The best known Boston college for women is Wellesley College, in the suburb of that name, where it occupies 300 acres. This institution, the teaching and administrative staff of which consists almost entirely of women, has 1,500 students. Simmons College, in Boston proper, and Jackson College — until recently a part of Tufts College for men — in Medford, another suburb, are the other best known women's institutions.

Tufts College, in addition to its academic department in Medford, has well-known medical and dental schools located in Boston proper.

Boston University has an excellent academic department as well as schools of law, medicine and divinity, all located in various parts of Municipal Boston.

Boston College, a Roman Catholic institution, is located at Newton, another suburb.

Education preparatory for college is carried on chiefly in public schools supported by taxation, although there are in Boston a considerable number of privately owned academies. In Massachusetts attendance at school is compulsory for all children between the ages of seven and fourteen years.

The public school system of Boston is a model for other American cities. The schools are administered by an unpaid, elected committee of five citizens. The system includes — in addition to the usual day classes for both sexes — industrial, commercial, art, normal, salesmanship and other vocational courses, many of them given in the evening in order that persons who have a regular daily occupation may attend.

Trade or technical schools, endowed by private philanthropy, are abundant. The Wentworth Institute, Franklin Union, Women's Educational and Industrial Union, the North End Union, Wells Memorial Institute and Massachusetts Charitable Mechanics Association are a few of these. The Young Men's Christian Association has over 1,900 students. In some manufacturing establishments, notably the General Electric Company at Lynn, educational courses are maintained for the employees.

ARTS, LETTERS AND MUSIC

Boston was the birthplace of American letters, and is to-day a notable center of literature, art and music. Boston was the home of the well-known group of nineteenth-century authors, poets and thinkers which included Emerson, Longfellow, Lowell, Holmes, Hawthorne, Whittier, Thoreau and others. Several national publications of importance are issued in the city, and among its residents are several of the best known American writers of to-day.

The first public library in America was started in Boston. Its collection now contains over one million volumes, and circulates annually 1,650,000 volumes to the homes of citizens. The main public library building on Copley Square is famous throughout the United States. On its walls are several notable series of mural paintings.

Boston has at present the best known American group of artists and sculp-



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HALL OF THE BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



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BOSTON OPERA HOUSE



HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, BOSTON



BOSTON MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

tors now producing. Its new Museum of Fine Arts is a very large and beautiful structure, and contains a number of excellent collections and individual works of great importance. The Museum maintains a school which gives instruction in drawing, painting, modeling and design.

The Boston Symphony Orchestra gives frequent public concerts during the winter in its great music hall, and travels extensively through the United States. The chief musical school of Boston is the New England Conservatory of Music.

The Boston Opera Company and its beautiful Opera House are only a few years old, but they already rank among the best in America.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Boston has many magnificent buildings, avenues and parks, with an abundance of striking natural scenery. There are seashores, rivers, forests and hills near at hand while not far distant lie the principal summer resorts of America.

The park system of Boston is of wide extent and exceptional beauty. The city and metropolitan park systems taken together cover over 12,000 acres. Beginning at the center of the city in the Common and the beautiful Public Gardens, they extend in both directions along the shore of the Atlantic and back along the rivers and ponds for many miles. The boulevards connect the beaches on the north and south with each other and with the great inland reservations. Near the center of the city is a magnificent fresh water basin recently created by damming the Charles River. Several of the ocean beaches lie within one hour's ride of the city.

At the principal beaches are great public bathhouses. Harbor trips and steamer excursions to all parts of the bay constitute a popular summer recreation.

A characteristic American sport is baseball, and from spring to fall inter-city contests between professional teams are held daily. Boston has a team in each of the two principal baseball leagues. As many as 35,000 people have attended games played by one of these teams in Boston.

American football is the chief sport in the autumn months. Football, unlike baseball, is always played by amateur teams. The principal contests are those between Harvard and the other large colleges, which are played in the Stadium, where 40,000 spectators can be seated.

HISTORICAL

The Pilgrims who came from England seeking religious freedom landed at Plymouth, a coast town near Boston to the south. Boston itself was settled in 1630 by John Winthrop and a party of English colonists from Salem.

As the scene of many of the important events in the history of the United States, and the birthplace or home of many of the men who achieved fame in

the early days of the nation, Boston has much of patriotic interest to Americans. It is annually visited by thousands of people for this reason alone.

It was at Boston that the men who conceived the idea of American liberty and who controlled the early destinies of the Republic were born and educated. The first battle of the Revolution was fought at Lexington, now a suburb, April 19, 1775. The first Provincial Congress met in Concord in 1774. Bunker Hill, at Charlestown, where the second battle was fought on June 17, 1775, is marked by a tall shaft. Both April 19 and June 17 are annually observed as holidays. Two of the earliest Presidents of the United States, John Adams, and John Quincy Adams, were born in Quincy, another suburb.

The next period during which the city played a significant part in history began in 1831 when the movement for the abolition of slavery throughout the country was begun in Boston by William Lloyd Garrison and his followers. The national revolt against the slave-traffic, which led up to the Civil War in 1861, made its headquarters in Boston.

Boston has been during the greater part of the last century the headquarters of the American Peace Society, as it is now the headquarters of its Massachusetts branch; it is also the headquarters of the World Peace Foundation. It has been one of the great centers of the college settlement movement in which South End House has had a most important place. It has taken the lead in a multitude of significant educational and philanthropic movements.

BOSTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Boston Chamber of Commerce, with nearly 5,000 members, is the largest commercial organization in America. It is chartered to promote the commerce, industry and public interests of Boston and New England. Through its numerous committees of public-spirited business men, it participates in all that makes for the welfare of the community. Each member pays \$25 a year toward the general expenses of the organization, which include the employment of a large staff of paid secretaries and experts. The members are from all vocations. Although the membership is chiefly merchants and manufacturers, it also includes many lawyers, engineers, accountants, architects, doctors and others. The institution operates under a charter granted by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. It has a president, two vice-presidents and a board of twenty-five directors, all serving without compensation. There are also a large number of small standing committees. The opinions of the Boston Chamber of Commerce are carefully worked out and have much weight with public and legislative bodies. Its reports and investigations are valuable, and the direct service rendered to its members considerable. It maintains an exchange where the grain business of New England is conducted, a marine department which sends out news of the movement of shipping, a statistical department which collates and classifies general commercial statistics, a bureau of information



WEST BOSTON BRIDGE TO CAMBRIDGE



STREET RAILWAY TERMINAL AT FOREST HILLS, BOSTON



PUBLIC GARDENS IN THE CENTER OF BOSTON



COMMONWEALTH AVENUE, BOSTON

and investigation, an expert transportation department, an industrial bureau and a system for the arbitration of business disputes.

The influence of the Boston Chamber of Commerce had a large part in bringing about the formation of the new Chamber of Commerce of the United States, a union of the commercial bodies in all parts of the country.

The Boston Chamber of Commerce took the lead in extending the invitations which resulted in the Fifth International Congress of Chambers of Commerce being held at Boston in 1912.



MASSACHUSETTS STATE HOUSE, BOSTON



STATE STREET, BOSTON
Showing Old State House



SOUTH TERMINAL RAILROAD STATION, BOSTON



UNION STATION, WORCESTER

Facts about the Cities Visited on the American Tour

WORCESTER

WORCESTER, Massachusetts, the first city visited by the foreign delegates on the American tour, is the largest manufacturing city in the United States not on a waterway. It is a city of diversified industries employing 34,000 skilled mechanics and laborers and more than 3,200 salaried employees. It has a commercial history dating back to 1800. It has always been without serious labor strikes or trouble. It has become by steady progress an inland city of 160,120 people (municipal census for 1912) and is growing at the rate of 7,500 a year.

This city is one of the machine tool centers of the United States. Here is located one of the principal plants of the American Steel & Wire Company, employing some 7,500 workers. It is the home of one of the largest manufacturers of abrasives and grinding wheels in the world — The Norton Company. It is an important center in the corset industry, having located here the plant of the Royal Worcester Corset Company, where employees work under such excellent conditions that the plant has an international reputation. It is a factor in the envelope industry — the United States Envelope Company alone having three plants in this city. It houses a great leather-belting plant — the Graton & Knight Manufacturing Company. The famous Whittall rugs and carpets are manufactured here. The Wyman & Gordon Company of this city drop-forged more than 75 per cent of all the automobile crank-shafts used in the automobile industry of this country. The Crompton & Knowles Loom Works turn out every year the greatest variety of weaving machinery with a loom for almost every fabric. If space permitted, hundreds of other industrial facts to show the pre-eminence of this city might be written, but suffice it to say that this city manufactures almost everything — from a button to a passenger coach. Other cities specialize in a few products. Worcester has legion, a fact which has made possible its uninterrupted industrial development in the last century.

In art, science and education, this city has an important place. It is the seat of Clark University, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Holy Cross College and lesser institutions of learning, and is the home of the third heaviest endowed art museum in the United States.

BUFFALO

Buffalo, the Queen City of the Lakes, occupies an enviable position industrially and commercially. Situated at the easterly end of Lake Erie, and at the western terminus of the new State Barge Canal, which connects the Great Lakes with the Atlantic Coast, it is like an hour-glass through which flow unceasingly the products of the soil from the west, and the finished manufactured products from the east. Seventeen railroad lines and ten steamship lines make it one of the world's greatest points of transfer.

Buffalo's strategic position with regard to transportation gives it immense advantage in assembling raw material and shipping finished products. Unlimited electric power from Niagara Falls, together with cheap natural gas, coal, iron and steel, lumber and water, gives to Buffalo all the essentials of low-cost manufacturing. Its products vary greatly, taking in over 60 per cent of the various kinds of manufactures recognized by the Federal Census Bureau and providing employment for skilled and unskilled labor of many kinds.

The steel industry which leads in value of products represents only 10 per cent of the total. Other important industries are slaughtering and meat packing; foundry and machine-shop work; flour and grist milling; automobiles; soap; printing and publishing; and malt.

Although commercial interests emphasize Buffalo's advantages as a commercial center, there are many who urge Buffalo's claim to be one of the most beautiful, cleanest and most healthful of the larger cities of the country. There are eight large parks containing more than 1,000 acres, connected by over 21 miles of shaded boulevard. Delaware Avenue is considered to be one of the finest residential thoroughfares in the United States. The Albright Art Gallery, situated on the grounds of the Pan-American Exposition enjoys a high reputation and contains besides the permanent collection of the Buffalo Fine Arts Academy, one of the best art schools in the country.

Buffalo is 22 miles from the world-famous Niagara Falls. Its population in 1912 was 444,950, increasing at the rate of about 15,000 a year.

DETROIT

The disclosures of the thirteenth census with reference to the growth of Detroit industrially and in population, and especially the marvelous development of its greatest industry, the automobile, were very striking.

Detroit holds first rank among all the cities of the world in the manufacture of the automobile. The actual growth of this industry in Detroit has been one of the industrial marvels of the age. In the twelfth census reports, covering the work of 1899, this industry did not appear as a separate class in the tables. In 1904 the value of automobiles and their parts produced in Detroit was given at \$6,240,057. In 1908 the product in automobiles stood at \$22,000,000. It



MCKINLEY MONUMENT, BUFFALO



NIAGARA FALLS



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VIEW OF THE LAKE FRONT, CHICAGO



PORTION OF THE CHICAGO STOCK YARDS

then jumped to \$54,300,000 in 1909 and \$134,587,000 in 1910. The next year this industry employed about 35,000 men, and turned out 135,000 cars valued at \$160,000,000. The registered capital employed by the twenty-seven companies engaged in this industry is about \$40,000,000. Every business man visiting Detroit ought to go through one or more of the immense automobile establishments.

The second industry of Detroit is car building, with a larger output of steel cars than any other city in the United States. Detroit also has immense shops and shipyards and is in the first rank among the lake shipbuilding ports.

Detroit also holds a leading position in the manufacture of stoves, druggists' preparations, soda-ash and caustic soda, aluminum castings, adding-machines and overalls. It is among the leaders in the manufacture of malleable iron, paints and varnishes, matches and special lines of furniture.

The official figures of the census show that in 1909 the value of the product of the factories of Detroit was \$252,992,000. The enormous expansion of the automobile business in the next two years, together with an unusual growth in other lines, indicates a factory product for 1911 which reaches the tremendous total of \$340,000,000.

On December 31, 1911, the population of Detroit was about 527,000 people within its area of only 41.44 square miles.

In 1903 the foundation was laid of the Detroit Board of Commerce, which has become one of the most powerful and useful commercial and civic organizations in the country. Its membership has increased from 506 at the time of its formal organization June 30, 1903, to over 3,100 in April, 1912.

CHICAGO

Less than a century ago the city of Chicago was a military post surrounded by the habitations of a few traders and Indians. In 1837 it was incorporated as a city with a population of 4,170. In 1912 it had a population of 2,446,921. Its area is 195 square miles. It is now the second city of the western hemisphere and the fifth city of the world. As a port of one of the great lakes its tonnage has given it rank with the world's great seaports. It is the greatest railway center in the world, being the terminal for twenty-six railway systems, comprising 84,938 miles, or 34.8 per cent of all the railroad mileage of the United States. As a manufacturing center, Chicago leads in the production of agricultural implements, meat products, electrical equipment, railway supplies, passenger, freight and sleeping cars, musical instruments, millinery, clothing and various other lines. It is a foremost distributing center of grain, fruit and produce, structural steel, many kinds of machinery, hardware, lumber, furniture, dry goods, footwear, hides and leathers, books and publications.

The population of Chicago is an aggregation of more than forty nationalities and racial variations, and this fact largely substantiates its claim to be distinguished as the American city. It is a commercial and industrial rather than

a financial center, and its weekly bank clearings of \$267,609,804 reflect the transactions of commerce rather than the speculative business of the exchange. Its business in grain, lumber, steel, meats, clothing, dry goods, etc., is enormous. Its wholesale trade is estimated to be \$1,905,989,000 annually.

Chicago is encircled by a system of parks and boulevards, having a circumference of about forty miles, three of its greater parks being upon its water front. It is in the front rank among the world's cities in the number and equipment of playgrounds provided for its children, and it is also distinguished in having the great social settlement, Hull House.

Chicago, like most cities of the new and old world, has grown without a plan. But a plan magnificent in design and practical in its workings has now been submitted to the people, and this will guide the city's great acts of reconstruction and extension in coming years. The great offices and mercantile buildings of Chicago are concentrated in a central district, and this district is under gradual transformation respecting those details which give beauty and convenience to metropolitan centers.

Chicago is distinguished as the site of the University of Chicago which in twenty years of life has instructed 43,115 students, and represents an investment in buildings, equipment, endowment, etc., of \$35,000,000.

Chicago is the meeting place of many conventions and so is an exchange for national thought on commercial, industrial, educational, religious, political and other questions animating the life of the American people.

In Chicago's Art Institute, or Academy of Exhibition and Design, there are more than fifty classes aggregating 3,000 pupils annually. Chicago's public library, operating through a great main building and twenty-six branches, offers one-half million volumes, the circulation of which is 3,000,000 annually. The Theodore Thomas Orchestra and the Chicago Grand Opera Company are among the city's exceptional musical facilities.

The city's business and professional strength and sentiment have been organized in The Chicago Association of Commerce, one of the largest bodies of its kind in the world.

CINCINNATI

Cincinnati is located in two states and three counties, the metropolitan district including a population of about 600,000. The great Ohio River flowing through its center presents an example of governmental canalization on a large scale, and when completed will form a constantly navigable water system thousands of miles in length.

Geographical and other natural advantages, including proximity to the center of population, to vast sources of supply of raw materials, including one of the greatest soft-coal fields in the world, have tended to develop manufacturing on a large and diversified scale. Cincinnati takes a high rank in the manufacture of machine tools, woodworking machinery, office furniture, glass bottles, ornamental iron, playing cards and washing machines, and in the dis-

tributon of whiskey and hardwood lumber. It is also an important center the the manufacture of shoes, soap, clothing, acids, musical instruments, printing inks, laundry machinery, distilling apparatus and carriages. So diversified are the industrial activities that a complete list is not feasible, but the situation may be summarized by the statement that 90 per cent of the lines classified by the Federal Census are manufactured in Cincinnati.

Cincinnati is the only city in the United States owning a steam railroad, the Cincinnati Southern, extending from Cincinnati to Chattanooga, Tenn. The city operates playgrounds, municipal lodging-houses, an employment bureau, a municipal laundry, bathhouses, tuberculosis and general hospitals, in addition to the usual activities of a city government. A new municipal hospital, costing two million dollars, is under construction.

Perhaps the most completely co-ordinated educational system in the country is found here, since it includes instruction from the kindergarten to and including the Municipal University. The co-operative system of education, by which the time of the student is divided between the class work and actual employment in the factories and other establishments of the city, is being adopted largely in other cities.

A comprehensive park and boulevard system is being worked out by a special commission. Many new and important projects, such as a magnificent Union Station, a rapid transit system and a public auditorium and entertainment hall, are in contemplation.

Cincinnati has long been noted as a center for art and music, and the May Festivals are renowned throughout the music-loving world.

DAYTON

Dayton, "The City of a Thousand Factories," is situated in the southwestern portion of Ohio, a state near the center of the United States. It was founded in 1796 by English, and later, German people. It received its charter in 1805, when it had a population of about 100 people. Its present population is about 125,000, and its corporate area is 6.5 miles. Dayton is situated in a rich industrial and agricultural area — the most thickly populated section west of the Alleghany mountains, and within its trading district are over 750,000 people. Dayton is a city of homes, and ranks high in its civic improvements, parks, playgrounds and civic pride.

Dayton is a leader in the manufacture of the following products: cash registers, aeroplanes, car registers, railroad cars, sewing machines, cast-iron fittings, clay working machinery, computing scales, filters, shoe lasts, golf clubs, stamped envelopes. Dayton is also an automobile manufacturing center. Dayton has 1,264 industrial establishments, with an annual output valued at \$72,000,000. The capital invested is \$32,000,000. Dayton's annual payroll is over \$35,000,000.

The most notable industrial plant at Dayton is the great factory of the

National Cash Register Company, which makes cash registers for every country on the globe, doing 45 per cent of its business outside the United States. This company maintains in connection with its works a well-equipped school for the industrial education of its employees. The president of the Company maintains near the outskirts of the city a large park "Hills and Dales" for the use of the employees and the citizens generally.

The original and present factory of Wright Brothers, the famous aeronautic engineers, is located at Dayton. Eight railroads radiate in twelve directions from the city.

At Dayton is situated the largest and finest National Soldiers' Home in the United States in an exceptional location surrounded by beautiful grounds.

PITTSBURGH

Pittsburgh is the steel center of the world. It occupies the front rank in the production of iron, steel, pig iron, steel ingots and castings, structural steel, wire, iron and steel pipe, sheet and plate iron and steel, steel buildings and bridges, steel cars, rolling-mill machinery and other iron and steel products.

The Pittsburgh district produced in 1910 ninety million tons of bituminous coal. Its steel works and blast furnaces give employment to 75,000 men. For the hauling of materials, coke, iron ore and limestone, which are made into pig iron in the Pittsburgh district, 88,000 freight trains, with an average load of 3,400 gross tons apiece are required every year. The total annual tonnage of the district is 167,733,268 tons. In 1910, 56,480,000,000 cubic feet of natural gas were piped into Pittsburgh direct from the gas fields.

In addition to the great steel industry, Pittsburgh has an important position in the manufacture of plate and window glass, plumbing supplies, fire brick, air brakes, table ware, white lead, tin plate, electrical machinery, aluminum and cork. It has a huge pickling and preserving plant with 3,500 employees and 500 traveling salesmen.

Metropolitan Pittsburgh has a population within a ten-mile radius of 1,042,855, ranking as the fifth metropolitan district of the United States. Within a radius of 40 miles of the Court House there lives a population of four million people.

There are 84 banks and trust companies in Pittsburgh with a capital of about \$60,000,000, and surplus of about \$100,000,000. The clearing-house exchanges for 1911 amounted to \$2,520,285,912.

Pittsburgh has 509 miles of paved streets. It has 22 parks, containing 1,387 acres, valued at over seven million dollars.

Carnegie Institute covers four acres, and cost Andrew Carnegie \$6,000,000, — with the technical schools adjoining, and all endowments, \$24,000,000. The Carnegie Technical Schools have 2,450 students, a campus of 32 acres and a faculty of 160. The University of Pittsburgh is a splendidly equipped institution with 1,948 students, a campus of 43 acres and a faculty of 225.



VIEW OF THE RIVER FRONT, DETROIT



VIEW FROM THE OHIO RIVER, CINCINNATI



THE CAPITOL, WASHINGTON, D. C.



WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON, D. C.

WASHINGTON

Washington, the capital city of the United States, is generally admitted to be one of the most beautiful cities in the New World. It was planned by the celebrated French engineer Charles Pierre L'Enfant. The public buildings are handsome and well placed, and thousands of acres of small and large parks adorn the city.

As the seat of the government of the United States, it has grown from a village to a city of 340,000 inhabitants. The White House, where the President lives, and the Capitol, where Congress sits, are located at either end of Pennsylvania Avenue, the principal thoroughfare of the city, and one of the most notable in the world.

In Washington are located the State, War, Navy, Treasury, Post-Office, Interior, Agricultural, Commerce and Labor Departments. The Library of Congress has nearly two million volumes. The National Museum, the United States Geological Survey, the Smithsonian Institute, the Naval Observatory, the Patent Office and the Carnegie Institute of Science are notable features. The Pan-American Union is housed in a magnificent building near the great Washington Monument.

The government factories, such as the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, the Government Printing-Office, the Navy Yard and the Arsenal have plants valued at \$25,000,000.

Mt. Vernon, the home and tomb of George Washington, is within an hour's ride of the capital.

Annapolis, the Government Naval School, is within a short distance of the city. A great National Soldiers' Home for the care of the retired and invalid soldiers is within the District of Columbia.

Washington has 314 parks and parkways, covering 3,413 acres.

The capital is the location of over 100 educational institutions. This number includes three universities: the George Washington, Georgetown and the Catholic University of America. There are also a deaf mute college at Kendal Green, the Army War College, the Army Medical School and others.

Washington is by no means insignificant from an industrial point of view. It contains 2,669 manufacturing establishments with 16,000 employees, and annual products valued at over \$37,000,000.

The District of Columbia, in which Washington is located, was established by Act of Congress in 1790. The administration of the affairs of the District of Columbia is in the hands of two commissioners appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, and one Army Engineer officer detailed by the Secretary of War. These three men constitute a board of commissioners for three years. This board prepares and submits estimates for the expenditures for each year; one-half of the necessary amount being assessed upon the District, and the other half appropriated by Congress from the Federal funds.

PHILADELPHIA

Philadelphia is one of the most important cities of the United States in commerce, industry and financial power. In 1910 its population was 1,549,008, and it ranked as the third city of the country.

Philadelphia takes the lead in many important lines of domestic production. The largest single industry of the city is the Baldwin Locomotive Works, which gives employment to 12,000 to 15,000 men, and turns out eight locomotives per diem.

The city is a leader in the building of ships, the manufacture of textiles, carpets and rugs, leather, hosiery, knit goods, felt hats, saws, oilcloth and street-cars, and is important in sugar refining, petroleum refining, the production of machinery of all kinds, chemicals, druggists' preparations, cordage and twine.

In Philadelphia are located 8,379 industrial establishments, employing 251,884 people, who receive annually wages of \$126,381,000. The capital invested in the industries of Philadelphia is \$691,397,000. The value of the industrial product of Philadelphia in 1909 was \$746,076,000.

Philadelphia is the headquarters of two of the most important American railroads, the Pennsylvania Railroad and the Reading Railroad.

There are in Philadelphia 105 national banks, trust companies and saving funds with a capital and surplus of \$170,000,000, and deposits of nearly \$600,000,000.

Philadelphia was founded in 1682 by William Penn as a Quaker colony, and has, in its 250 years of history, been the scene of some of the most important events of American history. The Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States were both signed at Philadelphia. The first National Mint and the first United States Post-Office were opened there.

Philadelphia is an important educational center, being the seat of the University of Pennsylvania, and the famous Girard College. The Drexel Institute, devoted to the extension and improvement of industrial education, is attended by more than 3,000 students. The Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts has one of the most important art collections in the United States.

Philadelphia has an excellent park system. The city's chief recreation ground is Fairmount Park, one of the largest city parks of the world, covering an area of 3,348 acres. The Zoölogical Garden in Philadelphia contains one of the best collections of the kind in America.

The Philadelphia Commercial Museum was established in 1895 to disseminate knowledge concerning products, requirements, manners and customs of different parts of the world. This is the most important commercial museum of the United States.



THE SKY LINE OF PITTSBURGH



INDEPENDENCE HALL, PHILADELPHIA



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THE SKYSCRAPERS OF LOWER NEW YORK



THREE OF THE BRIDGES TO BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

NEW YORK

New York is the metropolis of America and the second city of the world. In population, wealth, financial importance, commerce and manufacturing it dominates all other American cities. It is the natural gateway to the continent.

In 1910, according to the Federal census, the population of New York was 4,766,883. Its present officially estimated population is 5,173,000.

In 1911 the assessed value for purposes of taxation of New York real and personal property was \$8,216,763,287.

New York is the financial center of America. Its banking operations comprise not only the interests arising from the immense volume of foreign and domestic commerce, but also the financing of the nation's railway system and a vast range of industrial enterprises in every part of the United States. These vast financial operations are carried on through 154 banks and trust companies, whose capital and surplus is over \$581,500,000. The daily bank clearings in 1911 were over \$305,000,000, and for the year aggregated about ninety-five and one-half billions of dollars.

More than one-third of the exports from the United States to foreign countries find their outlet through the port of New York. In 1911 the total exports from the United States were valued at \$2,049,000,000; those from the port of New York were valued at \$772,552,000. In the same year New York's imports were of the value of \$881,592,000, out of a total for the United States of \$1,527,226,000. Fifty-eight lines of steamships engaged exclusively in foreign trade ply regularly between New York and all parts of the world. In addition fifty-one coastwise and local steamship lines transport an immense traffic between New York and the Atlantic and Gulf ports. In 1911, 9,719 vessels arrived at the port of New York. In the same year, 180,261 cabin passengers (alien) and 556,333 immigrants landed there.

In the volume, value and variety of its products New York is by far the most important manufacturing city of America. In 1909 New York had 25,938 manufacturing establishments employing 680,500 persons. The capital invested was \$1,364,353,000, and the aggregate value of products was \$2,029,693,000. The industries of New York are of a widely diversified character.

The city budget for 1912 (cost of municipal government) was \$181,090,256.

The city owns and supports 511 school buildings costing \$130,666,583. The budget allowance for conducting the public schools in 1911 was \$29,007,747 and the bond issues for schools were \$12,132,287 making a total spent for the public schools of \$41,140,034. The average daily attendance of pupils was 602,934.

The public parks of New York comprise a total of 7,947 acres. The most important of the urban parks are Central Park in Manhattan and Prospect Park in Brooklyn.

The Metropolitan Museum of Arts in Central Park contains the largest

collection of paintings, sculpture, architectural models and archeology in America.

New York's transit problem is one of the most serious which any municipality has ever been required to solve. Three great suspension bridges and one of the cantilever type connect Manhattan with Brooklyn and with Queens Borough. Ready access between New York and New Jersey is provided by the Hudson Tunnels connecting lower Manhattan and the down-town shopping district with most of the railroads on the New Jersey side. The present subways under Manhattan, Brooklyn and the Bronx are proving inadequate and huge new subways are under construction. The length of trackage in the present subways is 73 miles and their cost was \$50,000,000. The length of trackage in the new subways under construction is 256 miles and their cost is estimated at \$347,000,000.

The sky line of the lower end of Manhattan with its huge skyscrapers is unique. The magnificent railroad stations, hotels, theaters and so forth of New York are world-famous. No brief description can give an adequate picture of this constantly growing and wonderful city.

Appendix

Delegates to the Fifth International Congress of Chambers of Commerce

ARGENTINA

Official Delegate Nominated by Government

Dr. Abel Pardo, Consul General to the United States, New York, N.Y.

Rosario de Santa Fe — *Chamber of Commerce*

Thomas A. Eddy, Vice-President, American Trading Co. of New York

Tucuman — *Bolsa de Comercio*

G. Washington Rapelli

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY

AUSTRIA

Official Delegate Nominated by Government

Dr. Leonhard Hochdorf, Secretary to the Austrian Ministry of Commerce,
Postgasse 10, Vienna I

Brunn — *Chamber of Commerce and Industry*

Dr. Robert Mayer, Secretary
Paul M. Samek

Prague — *Chamber of Commerce and Industry*

Dr. Franz Malinsky, Vice-President
Dr. Rudolf Hotowitz, First Secretary
Dr. Zdenko Faßl, Manager of the Export Office
Dr. Otakar Hoppe, Official
Charles Jezek, Blansko, Moravia
Dr. Johann Löwenstein, Official
Dr. Jan. Matys, Deputy Secretary
Dr. Jaroslav Novák, Official
Gustav Steiner, Steiner Bros.
Ing. Arthur Sykora
Henry Waldes, Waldes & Co.
Max Wertheimer, J. Wertheimer & Co.

The Export Association of Bohemia, Silesia and Moravia

Rafael de Szalatnay

Reichenberg — *Chamber of Commerce and Industry*

Regierungsrat Dr. Fritz Carus, First Secretary
Kurt Grohmann, Teplitz-Schönau, Bohemia
Paul Hille, Hille & Wunsche, Schönlinde, Bohemia
Julius Hille, Hille & Müller, Schönau near Schluckenau, Bohemia
Clemens Jaeger, Schönbüchel near Schönlinde, Bohemia
Johann Klinger, Zeidler near Rumburg, Bohemia

Vienna — *Chamber of Commerce and Industry*

Josef Vinzl, Jr., Elisabethstraße 1, Vienna
 Dr. Max von Tayenthal, Stubenring 8, Vienna I
 Arnold Bardas, Edler von Bardenau, Auhofstraße 12, Vienna XIII
 Ferdinand Frankl, Wahringerstraße 2, Vienna IX
 Alfred Heinsheimer, Lisztstraße 1, Vienna I
 Hans Jauner von Schroffenegg, Hotel Sacher, Vienna I
 Arthur Klein, Hörlgasse 7, Vienna IX
 Ernst Krause, Vienna
 Rudolf Otto Maass, Wallfischgasse 10, Vienna I
 Dr. Gustav Rosauer, Zelinkagasse 9, Vienna I
 Mrs. Emilie Stubenvoll, Helferstorferstraße 4, Vienna I

Association of Colonial Produce Merchants

Josef Vinzl, Jr., Elisabethstraße 1, Vienna

Austrian Export Society

Adolf Schwarz, First Secretary, Schwarzenbergplatz 4, Vienna III

Central Association of Austrian Merchants

Josef Vinzl, Jr., Elisabethstraße 1, Vienna

Lower Austrian Association for the Promotion of Handicraft

Ernst Krause, Vice-President

Manufacturers' Association

Felix Neumann, Werdertorgasse 7, Vienna I

Merchants' Guild

Josef Vinzl, Jr., Elisabethstraße 1, Vienna

Participants

Paul von Boschen, Vienna III
 J. F. Votruba, II Tylovo 1, Prague

HUNGARY

Official Delegate Nominated by Government

Dr. Edmund Kunosi, Assistant Secretary, Royal Hungarian Ministry of Commerce

Arad — *Chamber of Commerce and Industry*

Dr. Louis Varjassy, Secretary

Budapest — *National Hungarian Commercial Association*

Berthold de Furst, Vice-President
 Dr. Alexander Katona, Secretary
 Dr. Paul Szende, General Secretary

Hungarian National Association of Chemical Industry

Dr. Gustavus Bokor, Secretary

Debreczen — *Chamber of Commerce and Industry*

Geza Kacziany
 Jules Szávay, Secretary

Gyor — *Chamber of Commerce and Industry*

Dr. Henri Kallos
 Paul Kuffler, B. Kuffler Co.
 Maurice Szendroi, Secretary

Kassa — *Chamber of Commerce and Industry*

Leo Perény

Albert Scholtz, Mateocz

Dr. Aladár Siposs, Secretary

Andrew Julius Siposs, President

Aladár Wein, Kesmark, Dep. Szepes

Nagyvarad — *Chamber of Commerce and Industry*

Dr. Louis Sarkadi, Secretary

Osijek-Eszek (Croatia-Slavonia) — *Chamber of Commerce and Industry*

Cedomil Mihoeinovic-Plavsic, Deputy

Szeged — *Chamber of Commerce and Industry*

Louis Perjessy, Secretary

Joseph Toth, Director School of Commerce

BELGIUM*Official Delegate Nominated by Government*

Paul Hagemans, Consul General to the United States, Philadelphia, Pa.

Brussels — *Chamber of Commerce*

Adolphe Charlet, Vice-President

Leon Chaussette

Judge Louis Lazard

Union des Associations Internationales

Urbain J. Ledoux

Ghent — *Cercle Commercial et Industriel*

Charles Christophe, Secretary

Mons — *Chamber of Commerce and Industry*

Louis Canon-LeGrand, President; President International Congress of Chambers of Commerce

Émile Jottrand, General Secretary; Secretary International Congress of Chambers of Commerce

Participants

Edouard Duez, Tournai

Marc Frison, Tournai

Henry Lechoux, Rue de la Ferme, 25, Brussels

Adrien Louvois, Rue de la Ferme, 25, Brussels

BOLIVIA*Official Delegate Nominated by Government*

Adolfo Ballivián, Consul General, New York, N. Y.

BRAZIL*Official Delegates Nominated by Government*

Count Candido Mendes de Almeida, Director of the Commercial Museum, Rio de Janeiro
 Manuel Jacintho Ferreira da Cunha, Consul General, New York, N.Y.
 Dr. Manuel da Costa Barradas, Commercial Attaché of Embassy, Washington, D. C.

Manaos — *Commercial Association*

Manuel Lobato

Commercial Association of the Amazon

A. W. Stedman, 77 Summer St., Boston

Rio de Janeiro — *Academy of Commerce*

Count Candido Mendes de Almeida, Director Commercial Museum

Commercial Association

Count Candido Mendes de Almeida

Commercial Museum

Count Candido Mendes de Almeida

Council of the Merchants and Ship Brokers

Count Candido Mendes de Almeida

Federation of Commercial Associations of Brazil

Count Candido Mendes de Almeida

International Chamber of Commerce of Brazil

Manuel Jacintho Ferreira da Cunha

Santos — *Commercial Association*

Charles W. Walker, Arbuckle & Co., New York

CHILE*Official Delegates Nominated by Government*

Horace Newton Fisher, Consul, Boston, Mass.

Ricardo Sanchez, Consul General to the United States, New York, N. Y.

Richard J. Lenpold, Consul, Baltimore, Md.

Santiago — *Sociedad de Fomento Fabril*

Horace Newton Fisher

David Montt, Avenida de las Delicias 2310

Tancredo Pinochet, 414 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, Pa.

Participant

Georges Petitjean, Santiago

CHINA*Official Delegates Nominated by Government*

Dr. Chin-tao Chen, M. S., Former Minister of Finance in the Nanking Government

Ching-Chun Wang, Assistant Director of the Peking-Mukden Railway, Peking

Fu Liang, Canton, Ministry of Industry and Commerce

Chiao Chung Tan, Commercial Attaché of Legation, Washington, D. C.

Chung Wen-pang, Second Secretary of Legation, Washington, D. C.

Hongkong — *Sze Yop Commercial Guild*

Louey Po Sang

Yang Sai Ngom

Yong Bang Kok

Shanghai — *General Chamber of Commerce*

Joseph Reed Patterson
 Charles R. Scott, International Banking Corp.
 John F. Seaman, Wisner & Co.
 Kween E. Yang

COLOMBIA

Official Delegate Nominated by Government

Dr. Don Jorge Vargas, Consul, Boston, Mass.

Participant

Don Vicente Martinez R., Cartagena

COSTA RICA

Official Delegates Nominated by Government

F. Peralta, San José
 Samuel E. Piza, San José

CUBA

Official Delegates Nominated by Government

Antonio Martin Rivero, E. E. & M. P., Washington, D. C.
 J. T. Monahan, 1 Wall St., New York, N. Y.

Havana — *Cámara de Comercio, Industria y Navegación de la Isla de Cuba*

J. M. Andreini, 29 West 75th St., New York, N. Y.
 Carlos Arnoldson

DENMARK

Official Delegate Nominated by Government

V. Lund

Copenhagen — *Chamber of Commerce*

A. C. Illum
 Carl Rubow
 Hans Tegner

ECUADOR

Official Delegates Nominated by Government

Vicente Gonzales, Quito, Chargé d'Affaires, Washington, D. C.
 Julio L. Roman, Consul, Boston, Mass.

Quito — *Chamber of Commerce*

L. E. Monge, Quito

EGYPT**Cairo** — *American Chamber of Commerce for the Levant*

Constantin Xippas, Mgr. Vacuum Oil Co. for Egypt and Palestine
International Chamber of Commerce
 Constantin Xippas

FRANCE

Angoulême — *Chamber of Commerce*

Gaston Magnier

Limoges — *Chamber of Commerce*

Léon Bernardaud

Marseilles — *Syndicat des Importateurs de Graines Oléagineuses*

Paul van Haecht, 59 rue Paradis

Paris — *American Chamber of Commerce*

Lawrence V. Benet, 19 Boulevard des Capucines

D. Roditi, 1 rue Ambroise-Thomas

Bernard J. Shoninger, President

William J. Thomas, Assistant Manager American Express Co. in Europe

Belgian Chamber of Commerce

Eugène Allard

Camille Huguenin

Albert Wolfers, Vice-President

British Chamber of Commerce

Henry F. Fletcher, Vice-President

Italian Chamber of Commerce

Dr. Albert C. Bonaschi, 203 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

Luigi Solari, 203 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

Netherlands Chamber of Commerce

J. Pierson, J. & O. G. Pierson

Ottoman Chamber of Commerce

Michel Dumani

Avram Farhi, Consul General, Boston, Mass.

Roubaix — *Chamber of Commerce*

Émile Toulemonde

Tourcoing — *Chamber of Commerce*

Louis Lorthiois, Lorthiois Frères

FRENCH POSSESSIONS — ALGIERS

Oran — *Chamber of Commerce*

Charles Dupuy

Philippeville — *Chamber of Commerce*

Charles Dupuy

GERMANY

Official Delegate Nominated by Government

Wilhelm Theodor Reineke, Imperial Consul, Boston, Mass.

Aix-la-Chapelle — *Chamber of Commerce*

Albert Schiffrers

Barmen — *Chamber of Commerce*

Paul Neumann, Neumann & Büren

Rudolf Ziersch, Otto Budde & Co.

Kommerzienrat Ferdinand Bartels

Berlin — *Deutscher Handelstag*

Dr. Soetbeer, General Secretary, Neue Friedrichstraße 53-54, Berlin C. 2

Kommerzienrat Heinrich Vogelsang, Recklinghausen, Westphalia

Die Ältesten der Kaufmannschaft von Berlin

Prof. Dr. Max Apt, Syndic

Georg Frank, Niederwallstraße 1314, Berlin C. 19

Felix Heimann

Dr. Martin Kriele

Kommerzienrat C. L. Netter, Wolf, Netter & Jacobi

Kommerzienrat Max Richter, Emil Ebeling

Chamber of Commerce

Dr. Otto Ehlers, M. P.

Leopold Rosenow, Rosenow & Co.

Handelsvertragsverein

Handelsrichter Hugo Manes, Bockenheimer Landstraße 45, Frankfurt a. M.

Kommerzienrat Otto Münsterberg, Hundegasse 109, Danzig

Direktor Arthur Vrancken, Leystapel 49, Cologne

Verband Deutscher Waren- und Kaufhäuser

Justizrat Dzialoszynski

American Association of Commerce and Trade

Prof. George S. Atwood, Secretary, Friedrichstraße 59-60

Bonn — *Chamber of Commerce*

Heinrich Breuer, Euskirchen

Bremen — *Chamber of Commerce*

Gottfried Koch, Postfach 472

Breslau — *Chamber of Commerce*

Max Schlesinger, Buttnerstraße 32-33

Brunswick — *Chamber of Commerce*

Ernst Amme, Vice-President

Chemnitz — *Chamber of Commerce*

Hon. Ernst Stephan Clauss, Plaue bei Flöha, Saxony

Cologne — *Chamber of Commerce*

Otto Bertueh

Louis Lehmann, Hohestraße 43

Kölner Gewerbe Verein

Ludwig Koerfer

Verein der Industriellen des Regierungs Bezirk

Fritz Schiffman, Euskirchen

Danzig — *Vorsteheramt der Kaufmannschaft*

Kommerzienrat Otto Münsterberg, Hundegasse 109

Dresden — *Chamber of Commerce*

Dr. August Karst, Syndic

Kommerzienrat Emil Lange, A. Lange & Sons, Glaschütte

Richard Mattersdorff, S. Mattersdorff

Export Verein im Königreich Sachsen

E. Robert Böhme

Verband Sächsischer Industrieller

Dr. Gustav Stresemann, Christianstraße 1-3

Düsseldorf — *Chamber of Commerce*

Dr. Brandt

Hugo Meyer, Schließfach 77

Elberfeld — *Chamber of Commerce*

Eduard Gebhard, Moltkestraße 63

Dr. Wiedemann, Syndic

Erfurt — *Chamber of Commerce*

Eduard Keller-Hartmann, Ziegenrück (Thüringen)

Essen — *Chamber of Commerce*

Ernst Simon, Werden-Ruhr

Frankfurt a. M. — *Chamber of Commerce*

Georges Gottlob, Frankfurter Hof

Dr. Levin, Stadtrat

Carl Ritter, Ritter's Park Hotel, Bad Homburg near Frankfurt

Freidrich Thorwart, Vice-President

Dr. Hans Trumpler, Secretary

Vereinigung der Exportfirmen

Hugo Manes

Gustav Mayer-Alberti, Kaiserstraße 37

Justizrat Dr. Ludwig Hecht

Halberstadt — *Chamber of Commerce*

Dr. Josef Weller, Quedlinburg a. Harz

Halle — *Chamber of Commerce*

Alfred Hoeltz, J. G. Hoeltz & Sons, Naumburg a. Saale

Dr. Pfahl, Syndic

C. W. Roediger, Hallesche Maschinenfabrik und Eisengießerei

Hamburg — *Chamber of Commerce*

C. Gopner, Joh. Diedr. Bieber

Dr. Jur. G. Arnold Kiesselbach, Syndic

Heidelberg — *Chamber of Commerce*

Geh. Kommerzienrat Friedrich Schott, President

Heinrich Stoess, Stoess & Co.

Hildesheim — *Chamber of Commerce*

Otto C. Ahlborn

Eduard Peine, Schuhstraße

Ludwig Peine, Schuhstraße

Karlsruhe — *Handelskammer für die Kreise Karlsruhe und Baden*

Camille Brenner, Hotel Stephanie, Baden-Baden

Friedrich Straus, Bankhause Straus & Co.

Königsberg — *Verein Deutscher Ingenieure*

Otto Breuer

Leipzig — *Chamber of Commerce*

Kommerzienrat Sigismund J. Tobias, Tobias & Schmidt

Dr. jur. Wendtland, Secretary

Lübeck — *Chamber of Commerce*

Carl F. R. Dimpker, Dimpker & Sommer

P. A. Mann

Mannheim — *Chamber of Commerce*

Dr. Hans Clemm

Dr. Emil Michelmann, Benz & Co.

Münster — *Chamber of Commerce*

Kommerzienrat Heinrich Vogelsang, Recklinghausen, Westphalia

Neugersdorf — *Verband Sächsischer Industrieller*

Oswald Hoffmann

Nuremberg — *Chamber of Commerce*

Carl Hutzelmeyer, Kleistraße 5

- Plauen** — *Chamber of Commerce*
Walter Mammen, Fernsprecher 8
- Regensburg** — *Chamber of Commerce*
August Ludwig, L. S. Ludwig
Kommerzienrat Ludwig Pustet, Friedrich Pustet & Co.
- Sonneberg** — *Chamber of Commerce*
Prof. Dr. Anschuetz, Secretary
- Sorau** — *Chamber of Commerce*
Paul Hermann, Naumburg a. Saale
- Stolberg** — *Chamber of Commerce*
Geh. Kommerzienrat Wilhelm Hoesch, Eberhard Hoesch & Sons, Düren
- Stuttgart** — *Chamber of Commerce*
Dr. Ernst Klien
- Trier** — *Chamber of Commerce*
Hugo Loeser, H. Loeser & Co.
- Würzburg** — *Chamber of Commerce*
Kommerzienrat Fritz Lang, Vice-Chairman

Participants

Carl Gross, M. Gladbach
Adolf Hartmann, Hannover

GREAT BRITAIN AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS

The delegates from the various portions of the British Empire are listed under the several constituent countries. The total number of the delegates is 102

ENGLAND

Official Delegate Nominated by Government

Hon. Thomas E. Erskine, British Consul General, St. Louis, Missouri

- Barrow-in-Furness** — *Chamber of Commerce*
Alfred Aslett, General Manager Furness Railway Co.
- Birkenhead** — *Chamber of Commerce*
David B. Adamson
- Bradford** — *Incorporated Chamber of Commerce*
John Bland
W. W. Ryeroft, Drake Hill, Bingley, Yorkshire
Richard C. Thyne, Moorcroft, Yeadon near Leeds
W. A. Whitehead, J. P.
Bradford Dyers' Association
Richard C. Thyne, Moorcroft, Yeadon near Leeds
- Bristol** — *Incorporated Chamber of Commerce and Shipping*
G. Palliser Martin, Argyle House, Pembroke Road, Clifton, Bristol
- Cheltenham** — *Chamber of Commerce*
George Dimmer, J. P. Cotteswold, Leckhampton Hill near Cheltenham
H. St. C. Bowle-Evans, 20 Lansdowne Place

Croydon — *Chamber of Commerce*

L. H. Turtle, President

Derby — *Chamber of Commerce*

G. A. Longden, Stanton-by-Dale, Nottingham

Dudley — *Chamber of Commerce*

F. W. Cook, J. P., Vice-President

Halifax — *Incorporated Chamber of Commerce*

John Armitage Drake, J. P., Messrs. Drake, Ltd.

Huddersfield — *Incorporated Chamber of Commerce*

Edward J. Bruce, J. P., Crowther, Bruce & Co., Ltd.

Liverpool — *Incorporated Chamber of Commerce*

Robert V. G. Adamson, Frank Hamilton & Co.

James R. Barbour

Price Jones, Marples, Jones & Co.

London — *British Imperial Council of Commerce*

F. Faithfull Begg, Faithfull Begg & Co.

Hon. J. G. Jenkins, 27 Clements Lane

G. Palliser Martin, Stephens Bros. & Martin, Bristol

Chamber of Commerce

F. Faithfull Begg, Bartholomew House, E. C.

Sir John E. Bingham, Bart., Walker & Hall, Sheffield

Harold A. H. Christie, B. A., F. R. A. S., Deepdale, Woldingham, Surrey

J. E. Evans-Jackson

R. S. Fraser, 4 Finsbury Circus, E. C.

Jacob Heilborn, 17 Holborn Viaduct, E. C.

Hon. J. G. Jenkins, 27 Clements Lane

A. Barton Kent, 75 Farringdon Road, E. C.

Sir Joseph Lawrence, 188 Fleet St., E. C.

Alfred Lohnstein, 13 London Wall, E. C.

Dr. Rudolph Messel, Managing Director Spencer, Chapman & Messel, Ltd.

Edward R. P. Moon

C. D. Morton, C. & E. Morton, Ltd.

Graham Spicer, F. R. G. S., 19 New Bridge St.

W. J. Thompson, 38 Mining Lane, E. C.

Thomas Usher, 72 St. Mary's Mansions, Paddington, W.

Wholesale Stationers' Association

Graham Spicer, F. R. G. S., 19 New Bridge St.

Canadian Chamber of Commerce

Henry F. Fletcher, Vice-President, British Chamber of Commerce in Paris, France

Dr. Frank B. Vrooman, Authors' Club, Whitehall Court, S. W.

Swedish Chamber of Commerce

F. Henriksson, 35 Vineyard Road, Wimbledon, S. W.

Nottingham — *Chamber of Commerce*

W. H. Blackburn

John Boot, St. Heliers, Park Drive

Paul Meyer, 1 Pelham Crescent, The Park

Reading — *Chamber of Commerce*

Arthur Newbery, Friar and Queen Victoria Sts.

Sheffield — *Chamber of Commerce*

Sydney Jessop Robinson, William Jessop & Sons, Ltd.

Wakefield — *Incorporated Chamber of Commerce and Shipping*
A. Taylor White

Walsall — *Incorporated Chamber of Commerce*
Alfred Dewsbury, John Dewsbury & Son, Ltd.
Joseph A. Leckie, John Leckie & Co.
Charles C. Walker
Sidney G. Wheway, The Shrubbery, Sytton Road

IRELAND

Cork — *Incorporated Chamber of Commerce and Shipping*
Benjamin Haughton, J. P., Cork Timber & Iron Co., Ltd.

Dublin — *Chamber of Commerce*
Richard K. Gamble, B. L., J. P., Honorary Secretary
William P. Odlum, J. P., Huntington, Portarlington, Ire.

SCOTLAND

Aberdeen — *Chamber of Commerce*
James C. Glegg, J. P., Glegg, Thomas, Ltd.
George Hutcheson, 47 Marischal St.

Dundee — *Chamber of Commerce*
William Mackenzie, 22 Meadowside

Edinburgh — *Chamber of Commerce and Manufacturers*
James Cormack, J. P., Leith
Young J. Pentland, Duncliffie, Murrayfield

Leith — *Chamber of Commerce*
James Cormack, J. P.

ADEN, ARABIA

Aden — *Chamber of Commerce*
Hormusjee Cowasjee Dinshaw

AUSTRALIA

Official Delegate Nominated by Government
Right Hon. Sir George Houston Reid, P. C., G. C. M. G.

Melbourne — *Chamber of Commerce*
Randal J. Alcock
Fred Thonemann

BAHAMAS

Nassau — *The Bahamas Chamber of Commerce*
R. H. Curry
T. G. Johnson
Hon. J. F. W. Turtle, Vice-Chairman

BERMUDA

Hamilton — *Chamber of Commerce*
John P. Hand
Eugene C. Pearman
Sir Thomas J. Wadson

BRITISH EAST AFRICA

Nairobi — *Chamber of Commerce*
Percy Chaplin

CANADA

Moncton — *Board of Trade*
W. H. Price, Secretary

Montreal — *Board of Trade*
Col. Jeffrey H. Burland, 2 Place d'Armes Square
Chambre de Commerce
C. H. Catelli
Joseph Fortier
Arthur Lemont

New Westminster — *Board of Trade*
James B. Kennedy

Ottawa — *Board of Trade*
J. Fred Booth
George S. May, President
Thomas Workman, 301 Wellington St.

Quebec — *Board of Trade*
G. A. Vandry, Ex-President

Toronto — *Board of Trade*
W. J. Gage, Ex-President
W. G. MacKendrick

INDIA

Calcutta — *Bengal Chamber of Commerce*
Hon. Norman McLeod, McLeod & Co.

Delhi — *Punjab Chamber of Commerce*
Lionel Collins, A. Frausstadt, Amritsar, Punjab

Participant

Dr. Shiv Nath Kapoor, 167 Bunder Road, Karachi City, East India

JAMAICA

Kingston — *Royal Jamaica Society of Agriculture and Commerce & Merchants' Exchange*
Reginald Melhado

NEW ZEALAND

Auckland — *Chamber of Commerce*
Col. G. W. S. Patterson

Christchurch — *Canterbury Chamber of Commerce*
Gilbert Anderson, 6 Holborn Viaduct, London, England
Albert Kaye, Kaye & Carter

Dunedin — *Chamber of Commerce*
Alexander Stronach Paterson

Invercargill — *Chamber of Commerce*
Alexander Stronach Paterson, Dunedin

Napier — *Chamber of Commerce*
P. J. Ryan, C. H. Cranby & Co.

Wanganui — *Chamber of Commerce*

Leonard E. Bassett
 Alfred Burnett
 Allan Robinson

Wellington — *Chamber of Commerce*

Albert Kaye, Kaye & Carter, Christchurch
 Alexander Stronach Paterson, Dunedin

SOUTH AFRICA

Cape Town — *South African Manufacturers' Association*

William J. Laite, General Secretary

TRINIDAD

Port of Spain — *Chamber of Commerce*

T. Geddes Grant
 William Scott

GREECE

Athens — *American Chamber of Commerce for the Levant*

Bernhard Mellissinos, Athens

GUATEMALA

Official Delegates Nominated by Government

A. C. Garcia, Consul, Boston, Mass.
 William A. Mosman, Vice-Consul, Boston, Mass.

HONDURAS

Official Delegate Nominated by Government

Dr. Don Alberto Membreno, E. E. & M. P. of Honduras, Washington, D. C.

ITALY

Official Delegates Nominated by Government

S. E. Grand Uff. Marchese Gerolamo Cusani Confalonieri
 Hon. Gustavo di Rosa, Royal Consul, Boston, Mass.
 Ing. Grand Uff. Angelo Salmoiraghi, President Milan Chamber of Commerce

Alessandria — *Chamber of Commerce and Industry*

Alessandro Debendetti, via Bertola 20

Bergamo — *Chamber of Commerce*

Luigi Locatelli, Piazza Cavour 3

Catania, Sicily — *Chamber of Commerce*

Ugo Donatelli
 Augusto Morosoli

Catanzaro — *Chamber of Commerce*

Baron Antonio De Grazia, via Venti Settembre 11

- Florence** — *Chamber of Commerce and Industry*
Dante Antolini, 45 Broadway, New York, N. Y.
- Lecco** — *Chamber of Commerce*
Cav. Giorgio Enrico Falek, via Monte Napoleone 7
Giuseppe Sala
- Lucca** — *Chamber of Commerce and Industry*
Luigi Solari, 203 Broadway, New York, N. Y.
- Milan** — *Chamber of Commerce*
Carlo Paini, viale Romana 23
Senator Ing. Angelo Salmoiraghi, President
Cav. Avv. Edmondo Valdiserra, General Secretary
- Agricultural Association of Lombardy*
Carlo Paini, viale Romana 23
- Associazione fra Commercianti, Esercenti ed Industriali*
Marco Boghen, via Tortona 15
Giuseppe Carletti, viale Monforte 4
Cav. Giorgio Enrico Falek, via Monte Napoleone 7, Lecca
Comm. Giuseppe Janni
Cav. Cesare Ponti, Portici Settentrionali 15
Francesco Ponzoni, via Brolo 2
Dr. Avv. Enrico Rajnoldi, Corso Venezia 61
Cav. Pietro Vallardi, via Moscovia 40
- Associazione fra Commercianti ed Industriali in Pelliccerie*
Emilio Pozzi, corso Magenta 80
- Associazione Granaria*
Carlo Paini, viale Romana 23
- Circolo per gli Interessi Agricoli, Commerciali ed Industriali*
Cesare Goldmann, via Stefano Jacini 6
- Consorzio fra gli Industriali meccanici e metallurgici*
Riccardo Radaelli, via Vittoria Colonna, N. 2
- Fedrazione Commerciale e Industriale Italiana*
Marco Boghen, via Tortona 15
- Federazione Internazionale Cottoniera*
Avv. Roberto Pozzi, via Monte di Pietà 11
- Modena** — *Chamber of Commerce*
Cav. Rag. Fermo Corni, President
Dr. Guido Corni
Magg. Cav. Giulio Formiggini-Nacmani, via Scalze 3
Dr. Emilio Malatesta, via S. Giovanni del Cantone 4
Dr. Joseph Salotti
Dr. Ferruccio Testi, Rua Muro 20
- Monza** — *Federazione Industriali*
Dr. Tullio Fossati
- Naples** — *American Chamber of Commerce in Italy*
Robert C. Arbib, Tripoli, North Africa
- Padua** — *Chamber of Commerce*
Dr. Gino de Benedetti, via S. Sofia 41
- Rome** — *Chamber of Commerce and Industry*
Gulienetti Guido
- Susa** — *Società Anonima Banchiero*
Ing. Giovanni Grosso

Turin — *Associazione Generale esercenti, commercianti ed industriali*

Hermann Leidheuser, via Brera 6, Milan

Giuseppe Magnino, Cuorgne

Cav. Eugenio Oderio, via S. Anselmo 4

Cav. Uff. Paolo Timossi, President, corso Massimo d'Azeglio 76

Participants

Ambrogio Brusotti, via Vittoria 40, Milan

Comm. Luigi Buffoli, corso S. Celso 6, Milan

Emanuele Celanza

Cav. Avv. Cesare Dalmazzi, via Pollenzo 840

Franco Fachini, Milan

Prof. Stefano Fachini, Director Scuola Industria Olii e Grassi, Milan

Dr. Adolfo Giro, Padua

Dr. Giuseppe E. Hess, via Manzoni 39, Milan

Ereole Marelli, casella postale 1254, Milan

Ing. Roberto Naef, via Senato 28, Milan

Ottavio Negri, Biella

Quintino Negri, Biella

Grand Uff. Prof. Luigi Pagliani, via Bidone 37

Paolo Puricelli, via Carlo Cattaneo 1, Milan

Cav. Ernesto Reinach, via Lario 90, Milan

Luigi Scandroglio, via Foro Bonaparte 50, Milan

Giuseppe Squindo, via Montecuccoli 9

Ing. Giulio Tosi, Legnano

Ing. Mario Vicari, corso Vittorio Emanuele 68

JAPAN*Official Delegates Nominated by Government*

Y. Numano, Acting Consul General, New York, N. Y.

Shinkichi Tamura, Vice-President of the Kobe Chamber of Commerce

Kobe — *Chamber of Commerce*

Shinkichi Tamura, Vice-President

Tokio — *Chamber of Commerce*

Reitaro Ichinomiya, 55 Wall St., New York, N. Y.

Yokohama — *Chamber of Commerce*

Iwao Nishi, 5 Ithome Tsukiji, Kiobashi-ku, Tokio

MEXICO*Official Delegates Nominated by Government*

J. Acevedo, Consul, Boston, Mass.

Don Enrique Martinez Sobral, Mexico City, Mexico

Domingo Valdes Llano, Hidalgo No. 121, Monterrey, N. L.

Hermosillo — *Chamber of Commerce*

Adolfo Ruiz

Vera Cruz — *National Chamber of Commerce*

J. Acevedo, Consul, Boston, Mass.

NETHERLANDS

Official Delegate Nominated by Government

A. van de Sande Bakhuyzen, Consul General, New York, N. Y.

Amsterdam — *Chamber of Commerce and Industry*

M. E. Yonker, H. Yonker & Son

Rotterdam — *Chamber of Commerce and Industry*

W. Westerman, Boomjes 78

Tilburg — *Chamber of Commerce and Industry*

Leon Bruyelle, H. Bruyelle

Jules de Beer, President

P. W. Maas, Paleisstraat 18-20

NORWAY

Official Delegates Nominated by Government

Dr. Albert Balchen, Christiania

Christian B. Lorentzen, Christiania

K. Oppegaard, Christiania Bryggeri, Christiania

Johan Steen, Steen & Strom, Christiania

Bergen — *La Bourse de Bergen*

Kristian Jebsen, Managing Director Bergen's Private Bank

Kristian Lehnkuhl, Managing Director Bergen S. S. Co.

Johan Ludw. Mowinkel

Christiania — *Den Norske Exportnærings Landsforbund*

Dr. Albert Balchen, Secretary

Christian B. Lorentzen

Den Norske Fællesforening for Haandverk Industri

K. Oppegaard, Christiania Bryggeri

Den Norske Handelsstands Fællesforening

Johan Rye Hohnboe, President Tromsø Handelsstands, Tromsø

Christian B. Lorentzen

Johan Steen, Steen & Strom

Chamber of Commerce

Cath. Bang

Johan Steen, Steen & Strom

Handelsstands Forening

Johan Steen, Steen & Strom

PANAMA

Official Delegate Nominated by Government

Ramon Arias-Feraud, Central Ave., Panama, R. P.

Participant

Eric Barham, Eric Barham & Co., Panama

PERSIA

Official Delegate Nominated by Government

Mirza Ali-Kuli Khan, Chargé d'Affaires, Washington, D. C.

PERU

Official Delegate Nominated by Government

Manuel de Freyre y Santander, First Secretary of the Legation, Washington, D. C.

Callao — *Chamber of Commerce*

Federico A. Pezet, E. E. & M. P., Washington, D. C.

Lima — *Chamber of Commerce*

Federico A. Pezet, E. E. & M. P., Washington, D. C.

Stock Exchange

Federico A. Pezet, E. E. & M. P., Washington, D. C.

Piura — *Chamber of Commerce*

Pedro V. Rubio

PORTUGAL

Official Delegates Nominated by Government

Oscar Potier, Consul General, New York, N. Y.

Jorge da Silveira Duarte de Almeida, Consul, Boston, Mass.

Elvas — *Commercial and Industrial Association*

Jacinto Lopes

Lisbon — *Agricultural, Commercial and Industrial Union*

Jorge da Silveira Duarte de Almeida, Consul, Boston, Mass.

William G. Andrew

Paul Gautier du Vignal

Centro Colonial

Manoel P. M. d'Almeida

Charles N. Serpa

Commercial Association

Dr. Manoel Garcia Monteiro, Cambridge, Mass.

Geographical Society

Dr. Joaquim Leite, Jr.

British Chamber of Commerce of Portugal

John Cassels, Villa Nova de Gays and Oporto, Lisbon

Participant

Henrique José Montiero de Mendencea, R. Marquez de Fronteira 20, Lisbon

PORTUGUESE POSSESSIONS — AZORES

Ponta Delgado, São Miguel — *Civil District*

Edgardo Garcia

Commercial Association

Edgardo Garcia

ROUMANIA

Bucharest — *American Chamber of Commerce for the Levant*

Leon P. Abramovitz, Calea Mosilor 80

RUSSIA

Baku, Transcaucasia, Asiatic Russia — *Chamber of Commerce*

M. I. Dassell, Steppuhn Bros., Baku

St. Petersburg — *Russo-British Chamber of Commerce*

Charles C. Patterson, Patterson, Wyld Co., Boston, Mass.

Warsaw — *Association of Polish Merchants*

George Loth

Participant

A. J. Fomilyant, St. Petersburg

SPAIN

Official Delegates Nominated by Government

Don Carlos Prast, Madrid

Don Manuel Walls y Merino, First Secretary of Legation and Chargé
d'Affaires, Washington, D. C.

Barcelona — *Chamber of Commerce*

Don Eduardo Agusti, Marq. Montroig 33

Don Carlos Prast, Madrid

Fomento del Trabajo Nacional

Don Eduardo Agusti, Marq. Montroig 33

Gerona — *Official Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Navigation*

Don Eduardo Agusti, Marq. Montroig 33, Barcelona

Don Carlos Prast, Madrid

Madrid — *Official Chamber of Commerce of the Province*

Don Eduardo Agusti, Marq. Montroig 33, Barcelona

Don Carlos Prast

Official Chamber of Industry of the Province

Don Carlos Prast

Valencia — *Chamber of Commerce*

Don Carlos Prast, Madrid

Valladolid — *Official Chamber of Commerce and Industry*

Don Carlos Prast, Madrid

Saragossa — *Official Chamber of Commerce and Industry*

Don Carlos Prast, Madrid

Participant

Salvador Diez, Jr., Jerez de la Frontera

SWEDEN

Official Delegates Nominated by Government

Olof Hjorth, Director Sandviken Ironworks Co., Ltd., Sandviken, Sweden

Birger C. A. Rosentwist, Royal Vice-Consul, Boston, Mass.

Gefle — *Chamber of Commerce*

Olof Hjorth, Sandviken

Stockholm — *General Export Association of Sweden*

John Hammar, Managing Director

Bengt Ljungberger, Secretary

Chamber of Commerce

Josef Sachs, Aktiebolaget Nordiska Companiet

Participants

T. Grönwall, Aktiebolaget Nordiska Companiet, Stockholm

Tom Lindberg, Gen. Mgr. Fidelity Trading Co., New York, N. Y.

SWITZERLAND*Official Delegates Nominated by Government*

Dr. Alfred Georg, Vice-President Chamber of Commerce, Geneva

Henri Martin, Secretary of Legation, Washington, D. C.

Geneva — *Chamber of Commerce*

Dr. Alfred Georg, Vice-President

John L. Gignoux

Dr. William Rappard, Professor of Political Economy, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

Swiss Union of Commerce and Industry

Dr. Alfred Georg, Vice-President, Chamber of Commerce, Geneva

Louis Junod, Vice-Consul, New York, N. Y.

TURKEY**Constantinople** — *Hellenic Chamber of Commerce*

Auguste Th. Sinadino, 53 State St., Boston, Mass.

American Chamber of Commerce for the Levant

C. D. Constantinidis, Fulas & Co.

Jules A. Fresco

Carl Holstein

Albert R. MacKusick, Boston, Mass.

E. H. Mill, Strong & Trowbridge Co.

W. C. Mountain, Stock & Mountain

Hon. Gabriel Bie Ravndal, American Consul General, Constantinople

Theo. Reppen

Trebizond, Asia Minor

C. Candilis

O. Mahokian

Isaiah Montesanto, American Consul, Trebizond

John G. Phostiropoulo

Smyrna

James W. Wilkinson

The other delegates of the American Chamber of Commerce for the Levant who are also listed under their respective countries, are as follows:

Constantin Xippas, Cairo, Egypt

Bernhard Mellissinos, Athens, Greece

Leon P. Abramovitz, Bucharest, Roumania

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Official Delegates Nominated by Government

Albertus H. Baldwin, Bureau of Manufacturers, Washington, D. C.
 William M. Bunker, The Brighton, Washington, D. C.
 Charles Lyon Chandler, American Consular Assistant, Washington, D. C.
 Charles Lee Cook, Department of State, Washington, D. C.
 John A. Craddock, Lynchburg, Va.
 John Foord, New York Journal of Commerce, New York, N. Y.
 Frank D. La Lanne, Board of Trade, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Charles P. Neill, Bureau of Labor, Washington, D. C.
 Charles M. Pepper, Foreign Trade Adviser, Department of State, Washington, D. C.
 James W. Porch, President New Orleans Progressive Union, New Orleans, La.
 Hon. Gabriel Bie Ravndal, American Consul General, Constantinople, Turkey
 Hon. Thomas Sammons, American Consul General, Yokohama, Japan
 Harry A. Wheeler, President, Chamber of Commerce of the United States, 7 So.
 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

Bureau of Manufactures, Washington, D. C.

Ralph M. Odell, Department of Commerce and Labor, Washington, D. C.

Chamber of Commerce of the United States of America

John Joy Edson, Director
 A. B. Farquhar, York, Pa.
 Ludwig Nissen, New York, N. Y.
 William B. Thompson, New Orleans, La.
 August H. Vogel, Milwaukee, Wis.

American Manufacturers' Export Association

Elmer H. Allen, Shirley, Mass.
 John W. Anderson, Detroit, Mich.
 M. de Moreira, 112 Duane St., New York, N. Y.
 H. L. Gemberling, The Sherwin-Williams Co., Newark, N. J.
 Edward A. Keith, Campello, Mass.
 W. E. Leigh
 William C. Redfield, President

National Association of Manufacturers

William M. Benney, Manager Foreign Trade Dept., New York, N. Y.
 J. P. Bird, General Manager, New York, N. Y.
 George T. Coppins, Vice-President for Massachusetts, Boston, Mass.
 Steven de Csesznak
 John Kirby, Jr., President, New York, N. Y.
 H. E. Miles, Racine Sattley Co., Racine, Wis.
 Col. George Pope, Pope Mfg. Co., Hartford, Conn.

National Board of Trade

Caleb H. Canby, S Board of Trade, Chicago, Ill.
 Hon. William H. Douglas, New York, N. Y.
 Frank D. La Lanne, Philadelphia, Pa.

National Business League of America

Francis T. Simmons, Chicago, Ill.
 Benjamin J. Rosenthal, Chicago, Ill.

Akron, Ohio — Chamber of Commerce

Vincent S. Stevens, Secretary
 S. F. Ziliox, President

Albany, N. Y. — *Chamber of Commerce*

Frank C. Herriek, 619 Broadway
James H. Perkins, National Commercial Bank

Baltimore, Md. — *Board of Trade*

H. Findlay French, Secretary
W. H. Maltbie, President Travelers' and Merchants' Association
F. A. Meyer, Vice-President
Theodore Mottu

Bangor, Maine — *Maine State Board of Trade*

Edward M. Blanding, Secretary, Bangor
Hon. Frederic E. Boothby, President, Portland, Me.
Timothy F. Callahan, Treasurer, Lewiston, Me.

Bay City, Mich. — *Board of Commerce*

Justin A. Runyan, Secretary

Birmingham, Ala. — *Chamber of Commerce*

S. M. Adler
John L. Kaul
J. W. Sibley
Leo K. Steiner

Boston, Mass. — *Chamber of Commerce*

Hon. Eugene N. Foss, Governor of Massachusetts
Hon. John F. Fitzgerald, Mayor of Boston
Elmer J. Bliss, 268 Summer St.
Robert J. Bottomly, Barristers' Hall
William E. Butler, Second Vice-President, 90 Tremont St.
Samuel B. Capen, President Massachusetts Peace Society
J. Randolph Coolidge, Jr., First Vice-President, 89 State St.
William C. Downs, New York, N. Y.
John H. Fahey, 1111 Tremont Building
Edward A. Filene, 426 Washington St.
Edwin Ginn, 29 Beacon St.
Charles S. Haight, New York, N. Y.
W. M. Hays, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.
James A. McKibben, Secretary
Edwin D. Mead, 40 Mt. Vernon St.
Bernard J. Rothwell, 608 Chamber of Commerce Building
Joseph B. Russell, President, 114 State St.
Hon. Charles H. Sherrill, 20 East 65th St., New York, N. Y.
George S. Smith, 50 Congress St.
James J. Storrow, 44 State St.
F. W. Taussig, Professor Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.
James T. Wetherald, 221 Columbus Ave.
Robert Winsor, 115 Devonshire St.

Fruit and Produce Exchange

Alton E. Briggs, Executive Secretary
Alfred P. Lee, President
Jesse S. Newcomb, Vice-President

Massachusetts State Board of Trade

Augustus M. Bearse, Postmaster, Middleboro, Mass.
 J. C. Bennett, 156 Commercial St., West Lynn, Mass.
 Judge Loyed E. Chamberlain, 143 Highland St., Brockton, Mass.
 Walstein R. Chester, Treasurer
 John H. Corcoran, 587 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, Mass.
 Theodore Glover Fillette, 6 Beacon St.
 Reddington Fiske, Needham, Mass.
 Richard L. Gay, Secretary, 6 Beacon St.
 John Hopewell, 87 Franklin St.
 James Y. Noyes, Dedham, Mass.
 Edward S. Payson, 395 Boylston St.
 Charles H. Stevens, Arlington, Mass.
 I. H. Wiley, 77 Portland St., Boston, Mass.

New England Hardware Dealers' Association

D. Fletcher Barber, 124 Summer St.
 F. Alexander Chandler, 36 Federal St.
 Henry M. Sanders, 27 Eliot St.

New England Shoe and Leather Association

Elisha W. Cobb, 76 South St.
 Charles C. Hoyt, President, 56 Lincoln St.

Real Estate Exchange and Auction Board

Hon. Charles Francis Adams, 2d, President
 Frederic H. Viaux, Secretary-Treasurer
 Leslie C. Wead, 35 Congress St.

Stationers' Association

Frank W. Bailey, 64 Franklin St.
 Abner K. Pratt, 13 Franklin St.
 George C. Whittemore, 105 State St.

Buffalo, N. Y. — *Chamber of Commerce*

William E. Robertson, 37 Court St.
 Maurice M. Wall

Chicago, Ill. — *Association of Commerce*

Joseph H. De Frees
 Frederick A. Delano, President Wabash R. R.
 W. R. Humphrey
 Harry Pratt Judson, LL.D., President Chicago University
 Frank R. McMullen
 LaVerne W. Noyes, President Aermotor Co.
 George W. Sheldon, President G. W. Sheldon Co.
 Francis T. Simmons, President Francis T. Simmons Co.
 John F. Smulski
 T. Edward Wilder, President Wilder & Co., 228 West Lake St.

Board of Trade

C. H. Canby, 8 Board of Trade
 Robert McDougal
 Charles B. Pierce

Illinois Manufacturers' Association

George P. Blow, Western Clock Manufacturing Co., La Salle, Ill.
 LaVerne W. Noyes, President Aermotor Co., Chicago, Ill.
 John E. Wilder, Wilder & Co., 228 West Lake St., Chicago, Ill.

Cincinnati, Ohio — *Business Men's Club*

Marius R. Ribas
Chamber of Commerce
Lazard Kahn
Marius R. Ribas

Cleveland, Ohio — *Chamber of Commerce*

Morris A. Black, Director
Walter H. Cottingham
Harvey D. Goulder
Munson Havens, Secretary
Francis F. Prentiss

Dallas, Texas — *Chamber of Commerce*

J. R. Babcock

Dayton, Ohio — *Chamber of Commerce*

Fred W. Fansher, Secretary
G. N. Lingham, Manager Foreign Dept. National Cash Register Co.

Decatur, Ill. — *Chamber of Commerce*

J. A. Corbett, President
Edgar B. Tyler

Denver, Colo. — *Chamber of Commerce*

Thorndike Deland, Secretary
Charles A. Johnson, 1020 15th St.
E. L. Scholtz, President Retail Association, Chamber of Commerce
Robert W. Speer
Edward J. Yetter, President

Detroit, Mich. — *Board of Commerce*

John W. Anderson
George M. Black
Roy D. Chapin
S. D. Waldon
C. Haines Wilson

Eureka, Calif. — *Humboldt Chamber of Commerce*

Capt. Walter Coggeshall

Fall River, Mass. — *Chamber of Commerce*

John Summerfield Brayton
Frederick J. McLane, Vice-President
James T. Milne

Fitchburg, Mass. — *Board of Trade & Merchants' Association*

Marcus A. Coolidge, Vice-President
Herbert E. Jennison, Jennison Co.
Ralph D. Redfern, Industrial Secretary

Fort Worth, Texas — *Chamber of Commerce*

Col. Louis J. Wortham, Editor Fort Worth "Star Telegram"

Framingham, Mass. — *Board of Trade*

George L. Avery, President
Harold B. Hayden
Edgar Potter, Secretary

Geneva, N. Y. — *Chamber of Commerce*

Sidney H. Lewis, Secretary

Haverhill, Mass. — *Board of Trade*

William W. Emerson, President
John E. Maguire
Austin H. Perry

Holyoke, Mass. — *Board of Trade*

W. H. Bullard, President
Morton Hull, Secretary
F. A. McLane, Vice-President

Houston, Texas — *Chamber of Commerce*

John F. Dickson

Indianapolis, Ind. — *Commercial Club*

William Fortune
Frank McAllister, President

Kalamazoo, Mich. — *Commercial Club*

Louis H. Conger

Kansas City, Mo. — *Commercial Club*

Charles J. Hubbard, Boston, Mass.

Key West, Fla. — *Chamber of Commerce*

Charles J. Curry, Secretary

Kingston, N. Y. — *Chamber of Commerce*

Sam Bernstein, Treasurer
Herbert Carl, Director
William F. Hoehn, Secretary
Robert E. Leighton

Los Angeles, Calif. — *Chamber of Commerce*

H. Z. Osborne, President

Louisville, Ky. — *Board of Trade*

Charles T. Ballard, Ballard & Ballard Milling Co.
James F. Buckner, Jr., Superintendent

Lowell, Mass. — *Board of Trade*

Arthur L. Gray, Hildreth Building
George M. Harrigan, Lowell Trust Co.
Clarence H. Nelson

Lynn, Mass. — *Board of Trade*

Ralph S. Bauer, 31 Central Square

Malden, Mass. — *Board of Trade*

Frank A. Bayrd
Charles Schumaker, President

Milwaukee, Wisc. — *Chamber of Commerce*

J. W. P. Lombard
Josef Mueller

Minneapolis, Minn. — *Civic and Commerce Association*

E. P. Wells

Newark, N. J. — *Board of Trade*

Denis F. O'Brien, A. P. Smith Mfg. Co., East Orange, N. J.

New Bedford, Mass. — Board of Trade

Benjamin H. Anthony
George E. Briggs
Abbott P. Smith

New Haven, Conn. — Chamber of Commerce

Robert W. Thain, 30 Beaufort Road, Jamaica Plain, Mass.

New London, Conn. — State Business Men's Association of Connecticut, Inc.

E. M. Dexter, Hartford, Conn.
Frank H. Johnston, New Britain, Conn.
S. E. Vincent, Bridgeport, Conn.

New Orleans, La. — Progressive Union

James W. Porch, President
M. B. Trezevant, Secretary

New York, N. Y. — Board of Trade and Transportation

C. A. Green, R. G. Dun & Co.

Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York

Austin B. Fletcher, 165 Broadway
George E. Ide, 256 Broadway
Eugenius H. Outerbridge, 11 Broadway

Merchants' Association

William C. Breed, Director
William A. Marble, First Vice-President
S. C. Mead, Secretary
Henry R. Towne, President

Produce Exchange

E. R. Carhart
William Harris Douglas

Italian Chamber of Commerce in New York

C. A. Mariani, President The E. Mariani Co.
Charles A. Pastene, Director, 69 Fulton St., Boston, Mass.
Luigi Solari, President

Netherlands Chamber of Commerce in America

Louis I. Duboureq, President U. S. Branch "Nederland Life Insurance Co."
T. Greidanus, Secretary
Peter C. Kuyper, P. C. Kuyper & Co.

Swedish Chamber of Commerce

Hans Lagerlöf

North Attleboro, Mass. — Board of Trade

William H. Bell, President

Passaic, N. J. — New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce

Ferdinand Wilckes, Camden, N. J.

Philadelphia, Pa. — Board of Trade

Frank D. La Lanne

Bourse

William R. Tucker, Secretary Philadelphia Board of Trade

Chamber of Commerce

Charles J. Cohen, Vice-President
John G. Croxton
William O. Hempstead
N. B. Kelly, Secretary

Commercial Museum

William S. Harvey, President, 100 Broadway, New York, N. Y.
Wilfred H. Schoff, Secretary
W. P. Wilson, Director

Pine Bluff, Ark. — *Chamber of Commerce*

Samuel C. Alexander
H. C. Spaulding, Secretary

Pittsburgh, Pa. — *Chamber of Commerce*

Albert J. Logan
Logan McKee, Secretary

Portland, Me. — *Board of Trade*

Silas B. Adams
Charles F. Flagg, President
Hon. Charles F. Libby
Frank H. Low, Second Vice-President
Maurice C. Rich, Secretary

Providence, R. I. — *Board of Trade*

J. Palmer Barstow
Frederick D. Carr
James R. MacColl, Pawtucket, R. I.

Manufacturing Jewelers' Board of Trade

Frederick A. Ballou
Frederick D. Carr, President
Harold E. Sweet, R. F. Simmons Co., Attleboro, Mass.

Rome, N. Y. — *Chamber of Commerce*

Alphonse J. Sigl, Secretary

Richmond, Va. — *Chamber of Commerce*

R. A. Dunlop

St. Louis, Mo. — *Business Men's League*

Hon. David R. Francis
George David Markham

Merchants' Exchange

J. J. P. Langton

St. Paul, Minn. — *Association of Commerce*

Joseph H. Beck
W. L. Seeley

San Antonio, Texas — *Chamber of Commerce*

James Routledge

San Francisco, Calif. — *Chamber of Commerce*

William M. Bunker, The Brighton, Washington, D. C.
Paul T. Carroll, Director, 708 Market St.
T. Cary Friedlander
R. E. Miller, 611 Mission St.

Somerville, Mass. — *Board of Trade*

George E. Day, 101 Highland Ave.
Albert L. Haskell, 424 Somerville Ave.

Springfield, Mass. — *Board of Trade*

Charles P. Chase, President

William H. Shuart

Emmett Hay Naylor, Secretary

Syracuse, N. Y. — *Chamber of Commerce*

Henry W. Cook

B. E. Salisbury

Troy, N. Y. — *Chamber of Commerce*

James H. Caldwell

William F. Gurley

Waltham, Mass. — *Board of Trade*

George A. Fiel, 53 High St.

George E. Parmenter

H. E. Tuttle, Secretary

Washington, D. C. — *Chamber of Commerce*

Edwin C. Reed, 279 Squantum St., Atlantic, Mass.

Pan-American Union

Hon. John Barrett, Director-General

Julian Moreno-Lacalle

Westerly, R. I. — *Board of Trade*

Clifford W. Campbell

Samuel H. Davis

Worcester, Mass. — *Board of Trade*

Fred H. Daniels

Charles T. Tatman

Edward M. Woodward, President

POSSESSIONS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

HAWAII

Honolulu — *Chamber of Commerce*

William G. Cooke, 82 Wall St., New York, N. Y.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

Manila — *Merchants' Association*

M. L. Stewart, 25 Broad St., New York, N. Y.

URUGUAY

Official Delegate Nominated by Government

Dr. Carlos Maria de Pena, E. E. & M. P., Washington, D. C.

Montevideo — *Camara Mercantil de Productos del País*

Max Otto von Klock, District Consul, Boston, Mass.

VENEZUELA

Official Delegate Nominated by Government

Pedro Rafael Rincones, Consul General, New York, N. Y.

Caracas — *Chamber of Commerce*

Cornelio Stolk, Jr., 97 Water St., New York, N.Y.

Permanent Committee

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESSES OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND COMMERCIAL AND
INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATIONS

10, RUE DE LA TRIBUNE BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

Names and Addresses of the Members of the Permanent Committee (August 25, 1912)

AUSTRIA

- DR. MAX VON TAYENTHAL, First Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Vienna, Government Counsellor, Imperial and Royal Commercial Counsellor, Vienna
HIS EXCELLENCY COUNT HENRI CLAM-MARTINIC, Personal Counsellor of His Majesty, member of the Chamber of Commerce of Prague
DR. FRITZ CARUS, First Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Reichenberg; Government Counsellor

Alternates:

- DR. FRIEDRICH MADER, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Innsbruck
ARTHUR KUFFLER, Vice-President of the Central Association of Austrian Manufacturers, Vienna
DR. HANS CHUDACZEK, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Eger

BELGIUM

- LOUIS CANON-LEGRAND, Construction Engineer, President of the Federation of Commercial and Industrial Associations of Belgium, President of the Provincial Council of Hainaut, Mons
LOUIS STRAUSS, Economist, President of the Superior Council of Industry and Commerce, Honorary Consul of Belgium, 127, rue Lamorinière, Antwerp
EUGÈNE ALLARD, President of the Belgian Chamber of Commerce of Paris, 42, rue Le Peletier, Paris

Alternates:

- E. VAN ELEWYCK, President of the Chamber of Commerce of Brussels
PAUL GUSTIN, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce of Antwerp
JOSEPH SOUBRE, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce of Verviers, 64, rue du Palais, Verviers

BULGARIA

- M. ZLATAROFF, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce of Sofia

Alternate:

- M. KARASTOYANOFF, Vice-President of the Chamber of Commerce of Sofia

FRANCE

CHARLES LEGRAND, President of the Chamber of Commerce of Paris, 42, rue de Clery, Paris II^e

CHARLES BOSSEBOEUF, President of the Chamber of Commerce of Tours

DENIS BODDEN, Counsellor for Foreign Commerce, Second Vice-President of the French Chamber of Commerce of Brussels, 82, Boulevard du Hainaut, Brussels

Alternates:

A. HERVET, President of the Chamber of Commerce of Bourges

M. BENOIT, President of the French Chamber of Commerce of London

M. DUHEM, Member of the Chamber of Commerce of Lille

GERMANY

J. ANDREAE, Geheimer Kommerzienrat, President of the Chamber of Commerce, 59, Neue Mainzerstraße, Frankfurt-on-the-Main

DR. JOH. KAEMPF, President of the German Reichstag, President of "Der Deutsche Handelstag," President of "Die Ältesten der Kaufmannschaft von Berlin," 8, Hohenzollernstraße, Berlin, W. 10

OTTO MÜNSTERBERG, Kommerzienrat, Member of the "Vorsteheramt der Kaufmannschaft," Danzig

Alternates:

DR. LOUIS RAVENÉ, Geheimer Kommerzienrat, Vice-President of the Chamber of Commerce, 10, Margaretenstraße, Berlin, W. 10

HERMANN ROBINOW, Chamber of Commerce, Hamburg

DR. SOETBEER, General Secretary of "Der Deutsche Handelstag," 53-54 Neue Friedrichstraße, Berlin, C. 2

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

CHARLES CHARLETON, Vice-President of the Chamber of Commerce of London, 4, East Cheap, London, E. C.

FRANK DEBENHAM, Former Treasurer of the Chamber of Commerce of London, Fitzjohns Avenue, London, N. W.

LEWIS R. S. TOMALIN, Former Vice-President of the Council of the Chamber of Commerce of London, 95, Milton Street, London, E. C.

Alternates:

ARTHUR SERENA, Treasurer of the Chamber of Commerce of London, 34, Leadenhall Street, London, E. C.

W. J. THOMPSON, Member of the Council of the Chamber of Commerce of London, 38, Mining Lane, London, E. C.

KENRIC B. MURRAY, Former Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce of London, Oxford Court, London, E. C.

HUNGARY

LADISLAS FÜRST DE MAROTH, Vice-President of the "Magyar Kereskedelmi Csarnok," Sas Utcza, 20-22, Budapest V

DR. EUGEN SCHREYER, Secretary of the "Magyar Kereskedelmi Csarnok," Perczel Mor Utcza, Budapest V

EUGEN LUKACS, Member of the Union of Hungarian Merchants, Eötvös Utcza, 38, Budapest IV

ITALY

ING. GR. UFF. ANGELO SALMOIRAGHI, President of the Union of Chambers of Commerce of Italy, President of the Chamber of Commerce of Milan

COMM. FILIPPO BINELLI, President of the Chamber of Commerce, Carrara

Alternates:

COMM. GIOVANNI LA FARINA, President of the Chamber of Commerce of Palermo, Vice-President of the Union of Chambers of Commerce of Italy, Palermo

COMM. AVV. FERDINANDO BOCCA, President of the Chamber of Commerce of Turin

LUXEMBOURG

JOSEPH WURTH-WEILER, Director of the International Bank, Member of the Chamber of Commerce of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Luxembourg

GUSTAVE DE MARIE, Merchant, Member of the Chamber of Commerce, Ettelbrück

J.-P. SEVENIG, Professor of Commerce, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, Luxembourg

NETHERLANDS

G. N. DE STOPPELAAR, President of the Netherlands Chamber of Commerce of Brussels, 48, chaussée de Charleroi, Brussels

DR. W. ROOSEGAARDE-BISSCHOP, Barrister at Law, Honorary Secretary of the Netherlands Chamber of Commerce of London, Paper Building, 3 Temple, London, E. C.

G.-S. DE CLERCQ, General Secretary of the "Maatschappij van Nijverheid" of the Netherlands, Haarlem

NORWAY

ALF. BJERCKE, Merchant, President of the Union of Commercial Associations of Norway, Christiania

KNUD BRYN, Director Tidemansgate, 4, Christiania

REIDAR DUÉ, General Secretary of the Union of Commercial Associations of Norway, Borsen, Christiania

Alternates:

ADOLF OEIEN, Merchant, Trondhjem

O. ERICHSEN, Manufacturer, Deputy, Trondhjem

RUSSIA

EMANUEL NOBEL, Vice-President of the Association of Industry and Commerce of Russia, 46, Liteyny, Saint Petersburg

Alternate:

M. KAZIMIR ADAMSKI, Member of the Association of Industry and Commerce of Russia

SPAIN

BARTHOLOMÉ AMENGUAL, Secretary of the Official Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Navigation, Barcelona

EDUARDO ESTELAT Y TORRES, Delegate of the Chamber of Commerce of Madrid

FREDERICO RAHOLA, Member of the "Fomento del trabajo nacional," 642, Calle de Cortes, Barcelona

Alternate:

ENRIQUE MARTI GARCÍA, General Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce of Madrid

SWEDEN

DR. FREDRIK GRONWALL, Bank Director, Stockholm C

DR. JACOB EKMAN, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, Malinö

SWITZERLAND

DR. ED. SULZER-ZIEGLER, National Counsellor, Winterthur

A. CUGELMANN, National Counsellor, Langental

DR. A. GEORG, Former National Counsellor, Geneva

Alternates:

DR. ALFRED FREY, National Counsellor, Zurich

H. JEZLER-LORENZ, Bale

JULES VAUTIER, Grandson

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

FRANK D. LA LAMME, President of the National Board of Trade, 214 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

EDWARD A. FILENE, Chamber of Commerce, Boston, Mass.

T. EDWARD WILDER, Chicago Association of Commerce, Chicago, Ill.

Alternates:

WILLIAM MCCARROLL, Public Service Commissioner, New York

U. J. LEDOUX, Chamber of Commerce, Boston, Mass.

COL. J. J. SULLIVAN, Chamber of Commerce, Cleveland, Ohio

General Secretary

ÉMILE JOTTRAND, Mons, Belgium

**Names and Addresses of Members of the Permanent Committee
Chosen at the Fifth Congress**

BELGIUM

LOUIS CANON-LEGRAND, Construction Engineer, Former President of the Federation of Commercial and Industrial Associations of Belgium, President of the Provincial Council of Hainaut, Mons

LOUIS STRAUSS, Economist, President of the Superior Council of Industry and Commerce, Honorary Consul of Belgium, 127, rue Lamoriniere, Antwerp

EUGÈNE ALLARD, President of the Belgian Chamber of Commerce of Paris, 42, rue Le Peletier, Paris

Alternates:

JOSEPH SOUBRE, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce of Verviers, 64, rue du Palais, Verviers

ALFRED VANDER STEGEN, Manufacturer, President of the Belgian Federation of Builders, and of the Commercial and Industrial Club of Ghent

J. B. PUTTAERT, Delegate of the Chamber of Commerce of Brussels, Merchant, 66, rue du Marche aux Charbons, Brussels

BRAZIL

- DR. CANDIDO DE MENDES DE ALMEIDA, Director of the Commercial Museum, Delegate of the Federation of Commercial Associations of Brazil, Rio de Janeiro
- DR. ALFONSO BANDEIRA DE MELLO, Secretary of the Belgian-Brazilian Chamber of Commerce, Antwerp
- DR. DELPHIN CARLOS, Director of the Bureau of Information of Brazil, Legation of Brazil, Paris

FRANCE

- DAVID-MENNET, President of the Chamber of Commerce of Paris, 2, place de la Bourse, Paris
- CHARLES BOSSEBOEUF, President of the Chamber of Commerce of Tours
- DENIS BODDEN, Counsellor for Foreign Commerce, Second Vice-President of the French Chamber of Commerce of Brussels, 82, boulevard du Hainaut, Brussels

GERMANY

- J. ANDREAE, Geheimer Kommerzienrat, President of the Chamber of Commerce, 59, Neue Mainzerstraße, Frankfurt-on-the-Main
- DR. JOH. KAEMPF, President of the German Reichstag, President of "Der Deutsche Handelstag," President of "Die Ältesten der Kaufmannschaft von Berlin," 8, Hohenzollernstraße, Berlin, W. 10
- OTTO MUNSTERBERG, Kommerzienrat, Member of the "Vorsteheramt der Kaufmannschaft," Danzig
- Alternates:*
- H. EDM. BOHLEN, Chamber of Commerce, Hamburg
- DR. LOUIS RAVENE, Geheimer Kommerzienrat, Vice-President of the Chamber of Commerce, 10, Margaretenstraße, Berlin, W. 10
- DR. SOETBEER, General Secretary of "Der Deutscher Handelstag," 53-54 Neue Freidrichstraße, Berlin, C. 2

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

- CHARLES CHARLETON, Vice-President of the Chamber of Commerce of London, 4, East Cheap, London, E. C.
- F. FAITHFULL BEGG, President of the Council of the Chamber of Commerce of London, Bartholomew House, London, E. C.
- A. BARTON KENT, Member of the Council of the Chamber of Commerce of London, 75, Farringdon Rd., London, E. C.
- Alternates:*
- W. J. THOMPSON, Member of the Council of the Chamber of Commerce of London, 38, Mining Lane, London, E. C.
- KENRIC B. MURRAY, Former Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce of London, Cromer Hyde, Central Road, Morden, Surrey
- GRAHAM SPICER, Member of the Chamber of Commerce of London, 19, New Bridge Street, London, E. C.

HUNGARY

JULES SZAVAY, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce of Debreczen

LOUIS VARJASSY, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Arad

DR. PAUL SZENDE, Secretary of the National Association of Hungarian Merchants, Budapest

Alternates:

MAURICE SZENDROI, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Gyor

DR. LOUIS SARKADI, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Nagyvarad

DR. ALADAR SIPOSS, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Kassa

ITALY

ING. GR. UFF. ANGELO SALMOIRAGHI, President of the Union of Chambers of Commerce of Italy, President of the Chamber of Commerce of Milan

COMM. AVV. FERDINANDO BOCCA, President of the Chamber of Commerce of Turin

NETHERLANDS

G. N. DE STOPPELAAR, President of the Netherlands Chamber of Commerce of Brussels, 48, chaussée de Charleroi, Brussels

DR. W. ROOSEGAARDE-BISSCHOP, Barrister at Law, Honorary Secretary of the Netherlands Chamber of Commerce of London, Paper Building, 3, Temple, London, E. C.

G. S. DE CLERCQ, General Secretary of the "Maatschappij van Nijverheid" of the Netherlands, Haarlem

Alternate:

M. E. YONKER, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Amsterdam

NORWAY

ALF. BJERCKE, Merchant, President of the Union of Commercial Associations of Norway, Christiania

KNUD BRYN, Director, Tidemansgate, 4, Christiania

REIDAR DUE, General Secretary of the Union of Commercial Associations of Norway, Borsen, Christiania

Alternates:

JORGEN BLYDT, Commissioner of the Bourse, Bergen

O. ERICHSEN, Manufacturer and Deputy, Trondhjem

SPAIN

BARTHOLOME AMENGUAL, Secretary of the Official Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Navigation, Barcelona

CARLOS PRAST, President of the Chamber of Commerce of Madrid

Alternate:

ENRIQUE MARTI GARCIA, General Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce of Madrid

SWEDEN

DR. FREDRIK GRONWALL, Bank Director, Stockholm.

DR. JACOB EKMAN, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, Malmö

SWITZERLAND

DR. A. GEORG, Vice-President of the Chamber of Commerce of Geneva
ARNOLD GUGELMANN, National Counsellor, Langental

Alternates:

DR. ALFERD FREY, National Counsellor, Zurich
H. JEZLER-LORENZ, Bale
JULES VAUTIER, Grandson

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

EDWARD A. FILENE, Chamber of Commerce, 453 Washington Street, Boston, Mass.
BERNARD J. SHONINGER, President of the American Chamber of Commerce of Paris, 3, rue
Scribe, Paris
HARRY A. WHEELER, President of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States of America,
5235 Lexington Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

Alternates:

JOHN H. FAHEY, Boston Chamber of Commerce, 12 Littell Road, Brookline, Mass.
GEORGE S. ATWOOD, Secretary of the American Association of Commerce and Trade, Equi-
table Building, Friedrichstraße, 59-60, Berlin
GEORGE W. SHELDON, Association of Commerce, Chicago

General Secretary

ÉMILE JOTTRAND, Mons, Belgium



Officers and American Committees

FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATIONS

Officers

President

LOUIS CANON-LEGRAND

President of the Permanent Committee of the International Congress. President of the Federation of the Commercial and Industrial Associations of Belgium. President of the Chamber of Commerce of Mons

Vice-President

EDWARD A. FILENE

*Vice-President of the Permanent Committee of the International Congress.
Member of the Boston Chamber of Commerce*

General Secretary

ÉMILE JOTTRAND

Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce of Mons. Secretary of the Federation of the Commercial and Industrial Associations of Belgium. Director of the Commercial Institute of the Manufacturers of Hainaut

Boston Executive Committee

GEORGE S. SMITH, Chairman

President Boston Chamber of Commerce, 1911

WILLIAM H. BAIN

Director Boston Chamber of Commerce

ELMER J. BLISS

Chairman General Organizing Committee

WILLIAM E. BUTLER

Second Vice-President Boston Chamber of Commerce

J. RANDOLPH COOLIDGE, JR.

First Vice-President Boston Chamber of Commerce

JOHN H. FAHEY

Chairman Committee on Tour

EDWARD A. FILENE

Vice-President International Congress of Chambers of Commerce

JAMES A. MCKIBBEN

Secretary Boston Chamber of Commerce

BERNARD J. ROTHWELL

Chairman Committee on Entertainment. President Boston Chamber of Commerce, 1910

JOSEPH B. RUSSELL

President Boston Chamber of Commerce, 1912

JAMES J. STORROW

Chairman Boston Honorary Committee. President Boston Chamber of Commerce, 1909

F. W. TAUSSIG

Chairman Committee on Program

JAMES T. WETHERALD

Chairman Committee on Publicity

ROBERT WINSOR

Chairman Committee on Finance

ROBERT J. BOTTOMLY, Secretary

American Honorary Committee

President

HON. WILLIAM H. TAFT, President of the United States of America

Vice-Presidents

HON. PHILANDER C. KNOX, Secretary of State for the United States of America

HON. CHARLES NAGEL, Secretary of Commerce and Labor for the United States of America

HON. SHELBY M. CULLOM, Chairman Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate of the United States of America

HON. WILLIAM SULZER, Chairman Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives of the United States of America

Members

HON. CHESTER H. ALDRICH, Governor of Nebraska

HON. NELSON W. ALDRICH, Chairman National Monetary Commission

HIS EXCELLENCY VISCOUNT DE ALTE, E. E. & M. P. of Portugal

JOHN D. ARCHBOLD, Standard Oil Company

HIS EXCELLENCY SEÑOR DON RICARDO ARIAS, E. E. & M. P. of Panama

J. OGDEN ARMOUR, Armour & Company

F. R. BABCOCK, President Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce

GEORGE F. BAKER, President First National Bank, New York City

HIS EXCELLENCY GEORGE BAKHMETEFF, Ambassador of Russia

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WILLIAM BARBOUR, President Linen Thread Company

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 JOHN H. PATTERSON, President National Cash Register Co.
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 HIS EXCELLENCY SEÑOR DON F. A. PEZET, E. E. & M. P. of Peru
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 HON. WALTER R. STUBBS, Governor of Kansas
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 HON. WILLIAM L. DOUGLAS, W. L. Douglas Shoe Co.
 JORGE DA SILVERIA DUARTE D'ALMEIDA, Consul of Portugal
 CHARLES L. EDGAR, President The Edison Electric Illuminating Co.
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 EDWARD A. FILENE, Vice-President Fifth International Congress

Committee on Tour Arrangements

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 JAMES A. MCKIBBEN, Secretary Boston Chamber of Commerce
 ROBERT J. BOTTOMLY, Secretary Boston Executive Committee
 JULIAN MORENO-LACALLE, Delegate of the Pan-American Union
 DR. ALBERT C. BONASCHI, Italian Chamber of Commerce, New York, N.Y.
 DAVID MONTT, Delegate of "Sociedad de Fomento Fabril," Santiago, Chile
 CHARLES LEDEUC, Assistant Secretary
 MRS. CHARLES LEDEUC, Secretary of the Ladies' Committee *
 JAMES J. CONROY, Assistant Secretary
 JOHN F. O'CONNELL, Secretary on Publicity
 P. D. CALLUM, Representing the Western Union Telegraph Co.

Representatives of the Boston & Albany Railroad

CHARLES E. COLONY

JAMES GRAY

J. E. SWEENEY

Press Representatives

HARRY HOYE, United Press

ERNEST G. HALL, "Christian Science Monitor"

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 LOUIS H. BUCKLEY, Committee on Itinerary
 GEORGE M. BASSETT, Committee on Banquet
 ALBERT H. INMAN, Committee on Automobiles
 CHARLES T. TATMAN, Committee on Invitations
 FRED H. DANIELS, Committee on Congress
 C. HERBERT DEFOSSE, Committee on Interpreters
 HENRY A. MACGOWAN, Committee on Ladies
 GEORGE A. PARK, Committee on Banquet Decorations
 AUSTIN P. CRISTY, Committee on Exterior Decorations
 WALTER H. ALLEN, Committee on Tickets
 HERBERT N. DAVISON, General Secretary

BUFFALO COMMITTEE

The Committee appointed by the Buffalo Chamber of Commerce was as follows:

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CHARLES CLIFTON	J. G. H. MARVIN
WM. H. CROSBY	H. A. MELDRUM
J. C. DOLD	F. W. PARDEE
JAMES F. FOSTER	EUGENE A. WOLFF

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The Committees appointed by the Detroit Board of Commerce were as follows:

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JOSEPH MACK	C. LEIDICH
J. J. CROWLEY	CHARLES B. SAWYER
H. T. EWALD	C. H. GIFFORD

HIRAM MARKS

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ROY D. CHAPIN, Chairman

GEORGE M. BLACK	J. W. ANDERSON
S. D. WALDON	LUCIUS E. WILSON
C. HAINES WILSON	

COMMITTEE ON BANQUET

ROBERT B. TANNAHILL, Chairman

FREDERICK H. HOLT	CARL M. GREEN
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INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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A. H. GREEN, JR.

J. NEWTON GUNN

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COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

GEORGE W. PARKER

COMMITTEE ON RECEPTION

WARD N. CHOATE

CHARLES A. BROWNELL

PHILIP BREITMEYER

JOSEPH MACK

LUCIUS E. WILSON

WILLIAM B. WREFORD

COMMITTEE ON LADIES

MRS. R. H. ASHBAUGH

CHICAGO COMMITTEES

In addition to the great Reception Committee containing 200 members, the active Committees in Chicago were:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

T. EDWARD WILDER, Chairman; Chicago Association of Commerce
 FRANK M. BUNCH, Vice-Chairman; Board of Trade of the City of Chicago
 GEORGE M. REYNOLDS, Treasurer; Continental and Commercial National Bank
 DOUGLAS MALLOCH, Secretary; Press Club of Chicago
 ELMER H. ADAMS, Chicago Association of Commerce
 JAMES S. AGAR, Chicago Association of Commerce
 WILLIAM B. AUSTIN, Hamilton Club of Chicago
 ALFRED BAKER, City Club
 MRS. GEORGE BASS, Chicago Woman's Club
 FREDERICK BODE, Industrial Club
 WILLIAM A. BOND, Chicago Association of Commerce
 MISS S. P. BRECKINRIDGE, Woman's City Club
 IRA M. COBE, Chicago Automobile Club
 JAMES G. CONDON, Iroquois Club
 RICHMOND DEAN, Chicago Association of Commerce
 FREDERICK A. DELANO
 SAMUEL DEUTSCH, Standard Club
 F. W. EDWARDS, Illinois Club
 WALTER FITCH, South Shore Country Club
 HAMLIN GARLAND, Cliff Dwellers
 H. C. GARDNER, Chicago Association of Commerce
 AUGUST GATZERT, Chicago Association of Commerce
 JOHN M. GLENN, Illinois Manufacturers' Association
 CHARLES E. GREGORY, Chicago Motor Club
 RICHARD C. HALL, Chicago Association of Commerce
 CARTER H. HARRISON, Mayor of City of Chicago

DR. A. W. HARRIS, Union League Club
 W. A. HEATH, Bankers' Club
 DR. EMIL G. HIRSCH, Sinai Temple
 LAWRENCE HEYWORTH, Calumet Club
 JOSEPH JOYCE, Irish Fellowship Club
 ALEXANDER A. McCORMICK, Chairman Reception Committee, Chicago Association of Commerce
 F. B. MONTGOMERY, Traffic Club of Chicago
 FREDERICK S. OLIVER, Chicago Real Estate Board
 CHARLES PIEZ, Illinois Manufacturers' Association
 WM. H. REHM, Chicago Association of Commerce
 JULIUS ROSENWALD
 HARRY RUBENS, JR., Germania Club
 JOHN S. RUNNELLS, Chicago Club
 FRANK T. SCANLAN, Chicago Transportation Association
 FRANCIS T. SIMMONS, Chicago Association of Commerce
 EDWARD M. SKINNER, Chicago Association of Commerce
 JOHN F. SMULSKI, Chicago Association of Commerce
 JOHN T. STOCKTON, Chicago Association of Commerce
 ALBERT WAHL, Cook County Real Estate Board
 CHARLES J. WEBB, Illinois Athletic Club
 CARLETON WHITE, Chicago Athletic Association
 THOMAS E. WILSON, Chicago Association of Commerce

FINANCE COMMITTEE

GEORGE M. REYNOLDS, Chairman
 HARRY A. WHEELER, Vice-Chairman

FREDERICK BODE	CARTER H. HARRISON
JAMES S. AGAR	EUGENE U. KIMBARK
FRANK M. BUNCH	CHARLES PIEZ
CHARLES G. DAWES	JOHN C. ROTH
RICHMOND DEAN	JULIUS ROSENWALD
H. C. GARDNER	JOHN F. SMULSKI
JOHN M. GLENN	FRED W. UPHAM

JOHN H. WOOD

ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

FRANK M. BUNCH, Chairman

F. B. MONTGOMERY	CHARLES E. GREGORY,
C. E. BARTLEY	JOHN E. WILDER
RICHARD C. HALL	JOHN T. STOCKTON
GEORGE E. MARCY	FRANCIS T. SIMMONS

N. H. VAN SICKLEN

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

DOUGLAS MALLOCH, Chairman

MALCOLM McDOWELL	WILLIAM HUDSON HARPER
HUBERT F. MILLER	

CINCINNATI COMMITTEES

GENERAL COMMITTEE

Representing the Cincinnati Business Men's Club, The Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce, The Cincinnati Commercial Association

W. E. HUTTON, Chairman; President The Business Men's Club
 THOS. P. EGAN, Vice-Chairman
 WALTER A. DRAPER, Vice-Chairman; President Chamber of Commerce
 GEORGE F. DIETERLE, Vice-Chairman; President Cincinnati Commercial Association
 OTTO ARMLEDER, Treasurer
 CARL DEHONEY, Secretary; Secretary and Manager Cincinnati Commercial Association
 GEORGE PUCHTA, Chairman Entertainment Committee

RECEPTION COMMITTEE

JOHN L. SHUFF, Chairman

E. H. BARDES	E. W. LYND
WM. A. HOPKINS	JAMES C. HOBART
SAMUEL L. MOYER	H. T. ATKINS
E. L. STERNBERGER	SI P. EGAN
FREDERICK A. GEIER	H. C. YEISER
CHAS. WIEDEMANN	A. W. MACBRAIR
H. C. MATHER	J. R. CLARK.
H. F. CELLARIUS	IRWIN M. KROHN
JAMES N. GAMBLE	R. K. LE BLOND
WILLIAM LODGE	H. B. CLOSSON
JAMES P. ORR	DWIGHT S. MARFIELD
HERMAN KIRSCHNER	LAZARD KAHN
E. W. EDWARDS	J. CHARLES McCULLOUGH
C. W. SHIPLEY	G. A. WILLEY
J. B. DOAN	WM. L. DOEPKE
MAX HIRSCH	R. A. COWING
GEORGE W. WEEDON	W. H. SCHMIDLAPP
THOMAS I. SCHULTZ	E. P. HARRISON
RUDOLPH H. WURLITZER	HENRY E. DECKEBACH
J. F. TAYLOR	B. F. DULWEBER
E. F. DU BRUL	L. A. AULT
D. B. MEACHAM	FRANK H. SIMPSON
B. H. KROGER	GEO. B. HAWLEY
WM. H. MUENCH	W. D. THALHEIMER
E. F. LUNKEN	MURRAY SHIPLEY
WM. B. MELISH	JOS. T. CAREW
MAURICE J. FREIBERG	HON. J. B. FORAKER
LEONARD S. SMITH	WM. A. WINDISCH
JULIUS FLEISCHMANN	NAPOLEON DU BRUL
A. P. HAGEMEYER	ALFRED K. NIPPERT
CHARLES PFAU	CHARLES LEWIS
W. W. TAYLOR	FRANKLIN ALTER
C. L. HARRISON	J. STACEY HILL
GEORGE R. BALCH	GEORGE W. MARTIN

N. W. STROBRIDGE
 EDWARD G. PFAU
 JOHN E. C. KOHLSAAT
 ED. FLICKER
 JAMES C. ERNST

PH. MORTON
 T. J. MOFFETT
 B. W. CAMPBELL
 AUGUST FERGER
 H. O. WENTE

DAYTON COMMITTEE

The Dayton Chamber of Commerce was assisted by the Welfare Department of the National Cash Register Company, the Dayton Bicycle Club and a Citizens' Reception Committee of One Hundred. The Committee of the Dayton Chamber of Commerce was as follows:

EDWARD E. BURKHART
 E. A. DEEDS

FRED RIKE
 FRANK McCORMICK, JR.

J. W. WHITE

PITTSBURGH COMMITTEES

The Delegates were the guests of the Chamber of Commerce and the City of Pittsburgh, the principal Officials and Committees being as follows:

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF PITTSBURGH

WILLIAM H. STEVENSON, President
 D. P. BLACK, First Vice-President
 ROBERT GARLAND, Second Vice-President
 JOHN B. BARBOUR, Third Vice-President
 H. M. LANDIS, Treasurer
 LOGAN McKEE, Secretary
 ROBT. W. BARBOUR, Assistant Secretary
 IRA S. BASSETT, Traffic Manager

COMMITTEE ON ENTERTAINMENT

W. S. BROWN, Chairman

JAMES FRANCIS BURKE
 DAVID F. COLLINGWOOD
 WM. H. DAVIS
 WILLIAM FLINN
 WM. M. FUREY

A. A. HAMERSCHLAG
 T. J. KEENAN
 FRANK J. LANAHAN
 H. M. LANDIS
 R. L. O'DONNELL

C. A. ROOK

CITY OF PITTSBURGH

HON. WM. A. MAGEE, Mayor

Council

HON. E. V. BABCOCK
 HON. ROBERT GARLAND
 HON. W. A. HOEVELER
 HON. J. P. KERR

HON. J. P. McARDLE
 HON. ENOCH RAUH
 HON. W. G. WILKINS
 HON. S. S. WOODBURN

WASHINGTON COMMITTEE

The Committee representing the Washington Chamber of Commerce was as follows:

	D. J. KAUFMAN, Chairman
JAMES F. OYSTER	D. J. CALLAHAN
	THOMAS GRANT

PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEES

The Committees appointed by the commercial organizations of Philadelphia were as follows:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

	EDWARD R. WOOD, Chairman
CHARLES Z. TRYON	B. FRANKLIN BETTS
DR. WILLIAM P. WILSON	WILLIAM R. TUCKER, Secretary

JOINT COMMITTEE

Philadelphia Board of Trade

EDWARD R. WOOD	FRANK D. LA LAMME
	CHAS. J. COHEN

Philadelphia Bourse

GEO. R. YARROW	PHILIP GODLEY
	CYRUS BORGNER

Philadelphia Maritime Exchange

E. R. SHARWOOD	WALTER F. HAGAR
	JAS. B. BONNER

Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce

CHAS. Z. TRYON	N. B. KELLY
	W. O. HEMPSTEAD

Philadelphia Drug Exchange

CHAS. E. HIRES	A. ROBINSON McILVAINE
	ANTHONY M. HANCE

Master Builders' Exchange

WM. B. IRVINE	COL. JOHN R. WIGGINS
	FRANKLIN M. HARRIS, JR.

Philadelphia Commercial Exchange

SAMUEL L. MCKNIGHT	LOUIS G. GRAFF
	WATSON W. WALTON

Grocers' and Importers' Exchange

WM. C. HALPEN, JR.

H. H. BROWN

H. G. FLINT

Merchants' and Manufacturers' Association

CALVIN M. SMYTH

J. HOWELL CUMMINGS

FRANK S. EVANS

Lumbermen's Exchange

B. FRANKLIN BETTS

S. B. VROOMAN

THOS. B. HAMMER

Hardware Merchants' and Manufacturers' Association

T. JAMES FERNLEY

DR. E. E. BROWN

FRANK GOULD

Commercial Museum

DR. WM. P. WILSON

Manufacturers' Club

THOS. F. ARMSTRONG

J. HOWELL CUMMINGS

CYRUS H. K. CURTIS

NEW YORK COMMITTEES

* In addition to the large Reception Committee, the active General Committee in New York was as follows:

The Merchants' Association of New York

WILLIAM A. MARBLE

HERMAN A. METZ

WILLIAM CRAWFORD

LOUIS ANNIN AMES

BENJAMIN D. TRAITEL

THOMAS H. DOWNING

MARCUS M. MARKS

JOHN W. LIEB, JR.

S. C. MEAD, Secretary

The Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York

WELDING RING

E. H. OUTERBRIDGE

CHARLES L. BERNHEIMER

JULIO F. SORZANO

MAURICE L. MUHLEMAN

S. S. PRATT, Secretary

The New York Produce Exchange

JOHN ASPEGREN

E. R. CARHART

J. G. GASII

WILLIAM H. DOUGLAS

CHARLES W. BOWRING

W. B. POLLOCK

L. B. HOWE, Secretary

American Manufacturers' Export Association

M. DE MOREIRA
O. W. SMITH

ROBERT C. KAMMERER
W. N. DICKINSON

H. T. WILLS, Secretary

The Pan-American Society

C. A. GREEN
LUIS F. COREA

WILLIAM C. DOWNS
THOMAS A. EDDY

FREDERIC BROWN, Secretary

The Italian Chamber of Commerce of New York

G. R. SCHROEDER
LUIGI SOLARI

GUSTAV FORGES
ERCOLE LOCATELLI

ACHILLE STARACE

The Netherlands Chamber of Commerce in America

P. A. PINCOFFS

P. C. KUYPER

T. GREIDANUS, Secretary

The Swedish Chamber of Commerce of New York

G. H. LUNDBECK
ALFRED RICHARDSON

COUNT J. W. H. HAMILTON
E. E. JOHNSON

HANS LAGERLÖF, Secretary

Consolidated Stock Exchange

M. E. DE AGUIERO

List of Commercial Organizations

AFFILIATED WITH THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESSES
OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL
ASSOCIATIONS, 1912

ARGENTINA

Rosario de Santa Fe — Chamber of Commerce
Tucuman — Bolsa de Comercio

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY

AUSTRIA

Bozen — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Brünn — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Cracow — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Eger — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Göritz — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Graz — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Innsbruck — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Klagenfurth — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Laibach — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Lemberg — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Olmütz — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Pilsen — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Prague — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Prague — The Export Association of Bohemia, Silesia and Moravia
Prague — Nove Obchodni Gremium
Ragusa — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Reichenberg — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Roveredo — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Rovigo — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Trieste — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Troppau — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Vienna — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Vienna — Association of Colonial Produce Merchants
Vienna — Austrian Export Society
Vienna — Central Association of Austrian Manufacturers
Vienna — Central Association of Austrian Merchants
Vienna — Lower Austrian Association for the Promotion of Handicraft
Vienna — Manufacturers' Association
Vienna — Merchants' Guild

HUNGARY

Agram (Croatia) — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 Arad — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 Brosso — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 Budapest — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 Budapest — Association of Hungarian Merchants
 Budapest — Hungarian Commercial Association
 Budapest — Hungarian Industrial Association
 Budapest — Hungarian National Association of Chemical Industry
 Budapest — National Hungarian Commercial Association
 Budapest — National Union of Hungarian Merchants
 Debreczen — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 Gyor — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 Kaschau — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 Kolozsvár — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 Nagyvarad — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 Osijek-Eszek (Croatia-Slavonia) — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 Pozsony — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 Soprony — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 Szegedin — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 Temesvár — Chamber of Commerce and Industry

BELGIUM

Bruges — Chamber of Commerce
 Brussels — Chamber of Commerce
 Brussels — L'Association générale des Meuniers Belges
 Brussels — L'Association des Fabricants de Glaces
 Brussels — British Chamber of Commerce of Belgium
 Brussels — French Chamber of Commerce
 Brussels — French Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 Brussels — Italian Chamber of Commerce
 Brussels — Netherlands Chamber of Commerce
 Brussels — Union of International Associations
 Charleroi — French Chamber of Commerce
 Courtrai-Roulers — Chamber of Commerce
 Ghent — Commercial and Industrial Club
 Ghent — L'Association cotonnière
 Hasselt — Chamber of Commerce of Limbourg
 Liège — La Bourse Industrielle
 Liège — L'Association des Licenciés sortis de l'Université de Liège
 Mons — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 Mons — L'Association houillère du Couchant
 Ostend — Chamber of Commerce
 Ypres — Commercial and Industrial Club

BRAZIL

Manaus — Commercial Association of the Amazon
 Para — Garantia da Amazonia
 Rio de Janeiro — Academy of Commerce
 Rio de Janeiro — Commercial Association

Rio de Janeiro — Commercial Museum
Rio de Janeiro — Council of the Merchants and Ship Brokers
Rio de Janeiro — Federation of Commercial Associations of Brazil
Rio de Janeiro — International Chamber of Commerce of Brazil
Santos — Commercial Association

BULGARIA

Plovdiv (Philippopolis) — Chamber of Commerce
Rustchuck — Chamber of Commerce
Sofia — Chamber of Commerce
Varna — Chamber of Commerce
Varna — La Corporation des Négociants en Céréales

CHILE

Santiago — Sociedad de Fomento Fabril
Santiago — French Chamber of Commerce

CHINA

Hongkong — Sze Yap Commercial Guild
Shanghai — General Chamber of Commerce

CUBA

Havana — Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Navigation of the Island of Cuba
Havana — Union of Manufacturers of Liquors and Distillers of the Island of Cuba

DENMARK

Copenhagen — Chamber of Commerce
Copenhagen — Grosserer Societetets Komite

ECUADOR

Guayaquil — Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture
Quito — Chamber of Commerce

EGYPT

Cairo — International Chamber of Commerce

FRANCE

Agen — Chamber of Commerce
Angoulême — Chamber of Commerce
Bar-le-Duc — Chamber of Commerce
Belfort — Chamber of Commerce
Bourg (Ain) — Chamber of Commerce
Bourges — Chamber of Commerce

Dunkirk — Chamber of Commerce
 Honfleur — Chamber of Commerce
 Limoges — Chamber of Commerce
 Marseilles — Chamber of Commerce
 Marseilles — Syndicat des Importateurs de Craines Oléagineuses
 Montpellier — Chamber of Commerce
 Nancy — Chamber of Commerce
 Nantes — Chamber of Commerce
 Paris — Chamber of Commerce
 Paris — American Chamber of Commerce
 Paris — Austria-Hungarian Chamber of Commerce
 Paris — Belgian Chamber of Commerce
 Paris — British Chamber of Commerce
 Paris — Italian Chamber of Commerce
 Paris — Netherlands Chamber of Commerce
 Paris — Ottoman Chamber of Commerce
 Paris — Russian Chamber of Commerce
 Paris — Spanish Chamber of Commerce
 Paris — Union des Chambres de Commerce françaises à l'Étranger
 Paris — Comité commercial franco-allemand
 Reims — Chamber of Commerce
 Roubaix — Chamber of Commerce
 Rouen — Chamber of Commerce
 Tourcoing — Chamber of Commerce
 Tours — Chamber of Commerce
 Versailles — Chamber of Commerce

FRENCH POSSESSIONS — ALGIERS

Oran — Chamber of Commerce
 Philippeville — Chamber of Commerce

GERMANY

Aix-la-Chapelle — Chamber of Commerce
 Barmen — Chamber of Commerce
 Berlin — Deutscher Handelstag
 Berlin — Die Ältesten der Kaufmannschaft von Berlin
 Berlin — Chamber of Commerce
 Berlin — Handelsvertragsverein
 Berlin — Verband deutscher Waren- und Kaufhäuser
 Berlin — American Association of Commerce and Trade
 Berlin — Centralverband des deutschen Bank- und Bankiergewerbes
 Berlin — Deutsch-französischer Wirtschaftsverein
 Bonn — Chamber of Commerce
 Bremen — Chamber of Commerce
 Breslau — Chamber of Commerce
 Brunswick — Chamber of Commerce
 Chemnitz — Chamber of Commerce
 Cologne — Chamber of Commerce
 Cologne — Gewerbe-Verein
 Cologne — International Association of Hotel-keepers
 Cologne — Verein der Industriellen des Regierungs-Bezirks

Danzig — Vorsteheramt der Kaufmannschaft
 Dortmund — Chamber of Commerce
 Dresden — Chamber of Commerce
 Dresden — Export-Verein im Königreich Sachsen
 Dresden — Verband sächsischer Industrieller
 Düsseldorf — Chamber of Commerce
 Düsseldorf — Netherlands Chamber of Commerce
 Elberfeld — Chamber of Commerce
 Erfurt — Chamber of Commerce
 Essen — Chamber of Commerce
 Frankfurt-on-the-Main — Chamber of Commerce
 Frankfurt-on-the-Main — Vereinigung der Exportfirmen
 Halberstadt — Chamber of Commerce
 Halle — Chamber of Commerce
 Hamburg — Chamber of Commerce
 Hanover — Chamber of Commerce
 Heidelberg — Chamber of Commerce
 Hildesheim — Chamber of Commerce
 Karlsruhe — Handelskammer für die Kreise Karlsruhe und Baden
 Königsberg — Verein deutscher Ingenieure
 Leipzig — Chamber of Commerce
 Lübeck — Chamber of Commerce
 Magdeburg — Chamber of Commerce
 Mannheim — Chamber of Commerce
 Münster — Chamber of Commerce
 Neugersdorf — Verband sächsischer Industrieller
 Nuremberg — Chamber of Commerce
 Plauen — Chamber of Commerce
 Regensburg — Chamber of Commerce
 Sonneberg — Chamber of Commerce
 Sorau — Chamber of Commerce
 Stolberg — Chamber of Commerce
 Strassburg — Chamber of Commerce
 Stuttgart — Chamber of Commerce
 Treves — Chamber of Commerce
 Würzburg — Chamber of Commerce

GREAT BRITAIN AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS

ENGLAND

Barrow-in-Furness — Chamber of Commerce
 Birkenhead — Chamber of Commerce
 Bradford — Incorporated Chamber of Commerce
 Bradford — Dyers' Association
 Bristol — Incorporated Chamber of Commerce and Shipping
 Cheltenham — Chamber of Commerce
 Croydon — Chamber of Commerce
 Derby — Chamber of Commerce
 Dudley — Chamber of Commerce
 Halifax — Incorporated Chamber of Commerce
 Huddersfield — Incorporated Chamber of Commerce
 Liverpool — Incorporated Chamber of Commerce

London — British Imperial Council of Commerce
 London — Chamber of Commerce
 London — Wholesale Stationers' Association
 London — Austria-Hungarian Chamber of Commerce
 London — Canadian Chamber of Commerce
 London — Netherlands Chamber of Commerce
 London — Swedish Chamber of Commerce
 London — Federation of Foreign Chambers of Commerce in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland
 Manchester — British Weights & Measures Association
 Nottingham — Chamber of Commerce
 Reading — Chamber of Commerce
 Sheffield — Chamber of Commerce
 Wakefield — Incorporated Chamber of Commerce and Shipping
 Walsall — Incorporated Chamber of Commerce

IRELAND

Cork — Incorporated Chamber of Commerce and Shipping
 Dublin — Chamber of Commerce

SCOTLAND

Aberdeen — Chamber of Commerce
 Dundee — Chamber of Commerce
 Edinburgh — Chamber of Commerce and Manufacturers
 Leith — Chamber of Commerce

ADEN, ARABIA

Aden — Chamber of Commerce

AUSTRALIA

Melbourne — Chamber of Commerce

BAHAMAS

Nassau — The Bahamas Chamber of Commerce

BERMUDA

Hamilton — Chamber of Commerce

BRITISH EAST AFRICA

Nairobi — Chamber of Commerce

CANADA

Belleville — Board of Trade
 Moncton — Board of Trade
 Montreal — Board of Trade
 Montreal — Chamber of Commerce
 Montreal — L'Association des Marchands détailliers du Canada
 New Westminster — Board of Trade
 Ottawa — Board of Trade
 Quebec — Board of Trade
 Sherbrooke — Board of Trade
 St. Catharine's — Board of Trade
 St. John, N. B. — Board of Trade
 Toronto — Board of Trade

INDIA

Calcutta — Bengal Chamber of Commerce
Delhi — Punjab Chamber of Commerce

JAMAICA

Kingston — Royal Jamaica Society of Agriculture and Commerce & Merchants' Exchange

NEW ZEALAND

Auckland — Chamber of Commerce
Christchurch — Canterbury Chamber of Commerce
Dunedin — Chamber of Commerce
Invercargill — Chamber of Commerce
Napier — Chamber of Commerce
Wanganui — Chamber of Commerce
Wellington — Chamber of Commerce

SINGAPORE

Singapore — Chinese Chamber of Commerce

SOUTH AFRICA

Cape Town — South African Manufacturers' Association

TASMANIA

Launceston — Chamber of Commerce

TRINIDAD

Port of Spain — Chamber of Commerce

GREECE

Athens — American Chamber of Commerce for the Levant
Patras — Chamber of Commerce
Piræus — Chamber of Commerce and Industry

HONDURAS

Tegucigalpa — Chamber of Commerce

ITALY

Alessandria — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Bari — Chamber of Commerce
Bergamo — Chamber of Commerce
Bologna — Chamber of Commerce
Brescia — Chamber of Commerce
Carrara — Chamber of Commerce
Catania, Sicily — Chamber of Commerce
Catanzaro — Chamber of Commerce

Cuneo — Chamber of Commerce
 Fermo — Chamber of Commerce
 Florence — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 Foggia — Chamber of Commerce
 Genoa — British Chamber of Commerce
 Girgenti — Chamber of Commerce
 Lecce — Chamber of Commerce
 Lodi — Chamber of Commerce
 Lucca — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 Milan — Chamber of Commerce
 Milan — Associazione fra Commerciali, Esercienti ed Industriali
 Milan — Associazione fra Commerciali ed Industriali in Pelliccerie
 Milan — Associazione Granaria
 Milan — Circolo per gli Interessi Agricoli, Commerciali ed Industriali
 Milan — Consorzio fra gli Industriali meccanici e metallurgici
 Milan — Federazione Commerciale e Industriale Italiana
 Milan — Federazione Internazionale Cottoniera
 Milan — Agricultural Association of Lombardy
 Modena — Chamber of Commerce
 Monza — Federazione Industriali
 Naples — Chamber of Commerce
 Naples — American Chamber of Commerce in Italy
 Padua — Chamber of Commerce
 Palermo — Chamber of Commerce
 Piacenza — Chamber of Commerce
 Pisa — Chamber of Commerce
 Rome — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 Susa — Società Anonima Banchiero
 Syracuse — Chamber of Commerce
 Turin — Chamber of Commerce
 Turin — Associazione Generale esercenti, commercianti ed industriali
 Venice — Chamber of Commerce
 Verona — Chamber of Commerce

JAPAN

Kobe — Chamber of Commerce
 Osaka — Chamber of Commerce
 Tokyo — Chamber of Commerce
 Yokohama — Chamber of Commerce
 Yokohama — Foreign Board of Trade

LUXEMBOURG

Luxembourg — Chamber of Commerce

MEXICO

Hermosillo — Chamber of Commerce
 Vera Cruz — National Chamber of Commerce

NETHERLANDS

Amsterdam — Chamber of Commerce
Dordrecht — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Haarlem — Chamber of Commerce
Haarlem — Maatschappij van Nijverheid
Rotterdam — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Tilburg — Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Vlaardingen — Chamber of Commerce and Industry

NORWAY

Bergen — Chamber of Commerce
Bergen — The Bourse
Christiania — Den Norske Exportnærings Landsforbund
Christiania — Den Norske Fællesforening for Haandverk og Industri
Christiania — Den Norske Handelsstands Fællesforening
Christiania — Chamber of Commerce
Christiania — Handelsstands Forening
Christiania — Import-Export Agenter Forening
Trondhjem — Chamber of Commerce

PERU

Callao — Chamber of Commerce
Lima — Chamber of Commerce
Lima — Stock Exchange
Piura — Chamber of Commerce

PORTUGAL

Elvas — Commercial, Industrial and Agricultural Association
Lisbon — Agricultural, Commercial and Industrial Union
Lisbon — Centro Colonial
Lisbon — Commercial Association
Lisbon — Geographical Society
Lisbon — British Chamber of Commerce in Portugal

PORTUGUESE POSSESSIONS — AZORES

Ponta Delgada, São Miguel — Commercial Association

ROUMANIA

Bucharest — American Chamber of Commerce for the Levant
Craiova — Chamber of Commerce

RUSSIA

- Baku, Transcaucasia, Asiatic Russia — Chamber of Commerce
 Helsingfors — Finska Handelsdelegationen
 Riga — Bourse
 St. Petersburg — Association of Industry and Commerce of Russia
 St. Petersburg — Russo-British Chamber of Commerce
 Warsaw — Towarzystwo Przemysłowców
 Warsaw — Association of Polish Merchants

SPAIN

- Barcelona — Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Navigation
 Barcelona — Fomento del Trabajo Nacional
 Barcelona — French Chamber of Commerce
 Gerona — Official Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Navigation
 Madrid — Official Chamber of Commerce of the Province
 Madrid — Official Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Navigation
 Madrid — Official Chamber of Industry of the Province
 Madrid — French Chamber of Commerce
 Saragossa — Official Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 Valencia — Chamber of Commerce
 Valladolid — Official Chamber of Commerce and Industry

SWEDEN

- Gefle — Chamber of Commerce
 Göteborg — Chamber of Commerce
 Jönköping — Chamber of Commerce
 Malmö — Chamber of Commerce
 Stockholm — General Export Association of Sweden
 Stockholm — Chamber of Commerce
 Stockholm — Merchants' Club

SWITZERLAND

- Basel — Chamber of Commerce
 Berne — Chamber of Commerce and Industry for the Canton
 Geneva — Swiss Union of Commerce and Industry
 Geneva — Chamber of Commerce
 Geneva — French Chamber of Commerce
 Geneva — Italian Chamber of Commerce
 St. Gall — Directorium des Négociants
 Zurich — Chamber of Commerce

TURKEY

- Constantinople — American Chamber of Commerce for the Levant
 Constantinople — Hellenic Chamber of Commerce

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Akron, Ohio — Chamber of Commerce
Albany, N. Y. — Chamber of Commerce
Baltimore, Md. — Board of Trade
Bangor, Maine — Maine State Board of Trade
Bay City, Mich. — Board of Commerce
Birmingham, Ala. — Chamber of Commerce
Boston, Mass. — Chamber of Commerce
Boston, Mass. — Fruit and Produce Exchange
Boston, Mass. — Massachusetts State Board of Trade
Boston, Mass. — Music Trade Association
Boston, Mass. — New England Hardware Dealers' Association
Boston, Mass. — New England Shoe and Leather Association
Boston, Mass. — Real Estate Exchange and Auction Board
Boston, Mass. — Stationers' Association
Brockton, Mass. — Chamber of Commerce
Buffalo, N. Y. — Chamber of Commerce
Chicago, Ill. — Association of Commerce
Chicago, Ill. — Board of Trade
Chicago, Ill. — Illinois Manufacturers' Association
Chicago, Ill. — National Business League of America
Cincinnati, Ohio — Business Men's Club
Cincinnati, Ohio — Chamber of Commerce
Cincinnati, Ohio — Commercial Association
Cleveland, Ohio — Chamber of Commerce
Dallas, Texas — Chamber of Commerce
Davenport, Iowa — Commercial Club
Davenport, Iowa — Greater Davenport Committee
Dayton, Ohio — Chamber of Commerce
Decatur, Ill. — Chamber of Commerce
Denver, Colo. — Chamber of Commerce
Detroit, Mich. — Board of Commerce
Eureka, Calif. — Humboldt Chamber of Commerce
Fall River, Mass. — Chamber of Commerce
Fitchburg, Mass. — Board of Trade and Merchants' Association
Fort Worth, Texas — Chamber of Commerce
Framingham, Mass. — Board of Trade
Geneva, N. Y. — Chamber of Commerce
Haverhill, Mass. — Board of Trade
Holyoke, Mass. — Board of Trade
Houston, Texas — Chamber of Commerce
Indianapolis, Ind. — Board of Trade
Indianapolis, Ind. — Commercial Club
Kalamazoo, Mich. — Commercial Club
Kansas City, Mo. — Commercial Club
Key West, Fla. — Chamber of Commerce
Kingston, N. Y. — Chamber of Commerce
Los Angeles, Calif. — Chamber of Commerce
Louisville, Ky. — Board of Trade
Lowell, Mass. — Board of Trade
Lynn, Mass. — Board of Trade
Lynn, Mass. — Merchants' Association

Malden, Mass. — Board of Trade
 Milwaukee, Wis. — Chamber of Commerce
 Minneapolis, Minn. — Civic and Commerce Association
 Newark, N. J. — Board of Trade
 New Bedford, Mass. — Board of Trade
 New Britain, Conn. — Business Men's Association
 Newburyport, Mass. — Business Men's Association
 New Haven, Conn. — Chamber of Commerce
 New London, Conn. — State Business Men's Association
 New Orleans, La. — Progressive Union
 New York, N. Y. — American Manufacturers' Export Association
 New York, N. Y. — Board of Trade and Transportation
 New York, N. Y. — Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York
 New York, N. Y. — Merchants' Association
 New York, N. Y. — National Association of Manufacturers
 New York, N. Y. — North Side Board of Trade, Borough of the Bronx
 New York, N. Y. — Produce Exchange
 New York, N. Y. — Italian Chamber of Commerce
 New York, N. Y. — Netherlands Chamber of Commerce in America
 New York, N. Y. — Swedish Chamber of Commerce
 Norfolk, Va. — Board of Trade and Business Men's Association
 North Attleboro, Mass. — Board of Trade
 Oakland, Calif. — Chamber of Commerce
 Passaic, N. J. — New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce
 Philadelphia, Pa. — Board of Trade
 Philadelphia, Pa. — Bourse
 Philadelphia, Pa. — Chamber of Commerce
 Philadelphia, Pa. — Commercial Museum
 Philadelphia, Pa. — Maritime Exchange
 Philadelphia, Pa. — National Board of Trade
 Pine Bluff, Ark. — Chamber of Commerce
 Pittsburgh, Pa. — Chamber of Commerce
 Portland, Maine — Board of Trade
 Providence, R. I. — Board of Trade
 Providence, R. I. — Manufacturing Jewelers' Board of Trade
 Reading, Pa. — Board of Trade
 Rochester, N. Y. — Chamber of Commerce
 Rome, N. Y. — Chamber of Commerce
 Richmond, Va. — Chamber of Commerce
 Sacramento, Calif. — Chamber of Commerce
 St. Louis, Mo. — Business Men's League
 St. Louis, Mo. — Merchants' Exchange
 St. Paul, Minn. — Association of Commerce
 San Antonio, Texas — Chamber of Commerce
 San Francisco, Calif. — Chamber of Commerce
 Seattle, Wash. — New Seattle Chamber of Commerce
 Somerville, Mass. — Board of Trade
 Spokane, Wash. — Chamber of Commerce
 Springfield, Mass. — Board of Trade
 Syracuse, N. Y. — Chamber of Commerce
 Toledo, Ohio — Commerce Club
 Troy, N. Y. — Chamber of Commerce
 Waltham, Mass. — Board of Trade

Washington, D. C. — Chamber of Commerce of the United States of America

Washington, D. C. — Chamber of Commerce

Washington, D. C. — Pan-American Union

Westerly, R. I. — Board of Trade

Worcester, Mass. — Board of Trade

Youngstown, Ohio — Chamber of Commerce

POSSESSIONS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

HAWAII

Honolulu — Chamber of Commerce

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

Manila — Merchants' Association

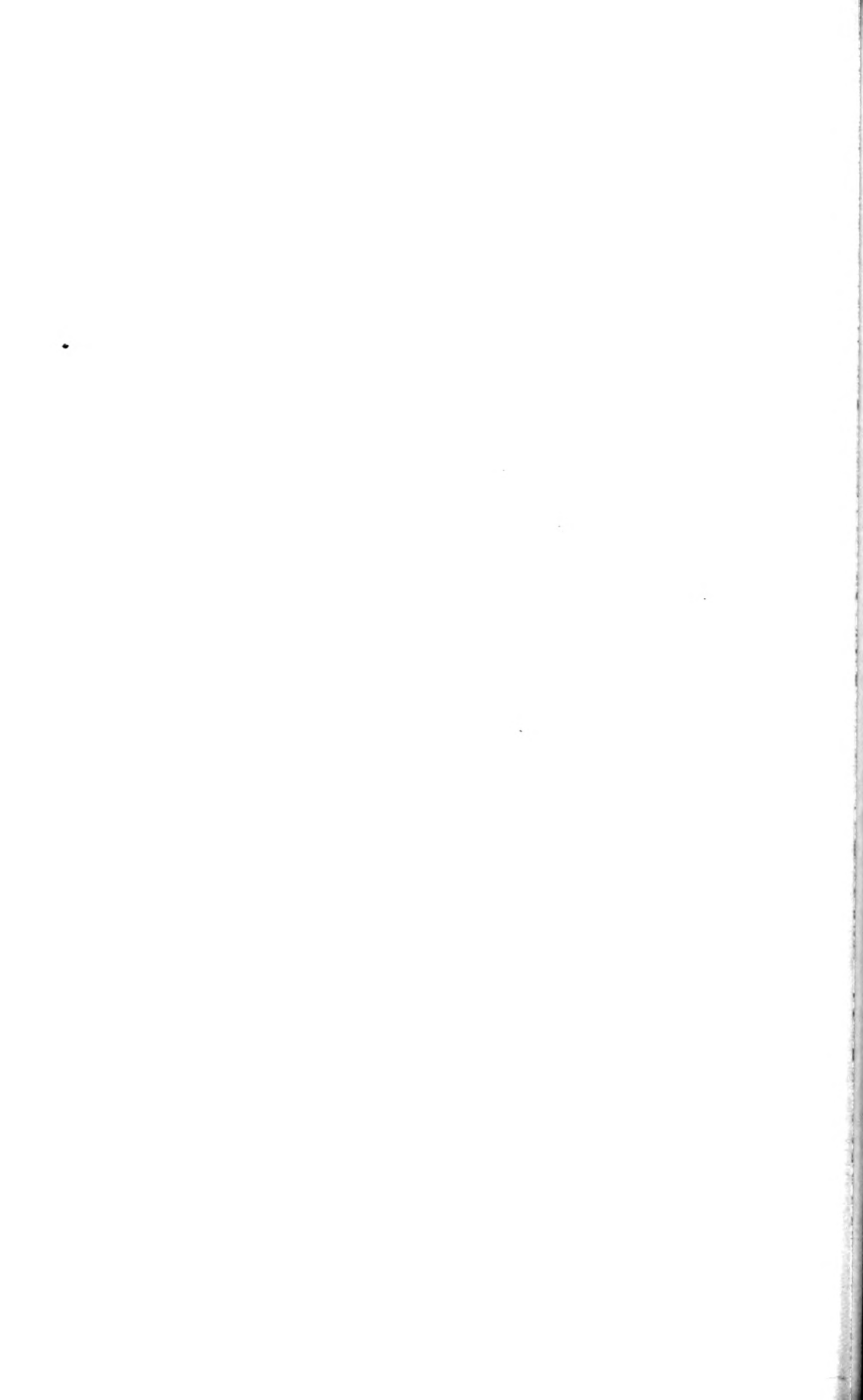
URUGUAY

Montevideo — Chamber of Commerce

Montevideo — Cámara Mercantil de Productos del País

VENEZUELA

Caracas — Chamber of Commerce



Stenographic Report of Official Sessions

FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATIONS, AT BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, U. S. A.

SEPTEMBER 24, 25 AND 26

First Session

THE session was called to order in the ball-room of the Copley Plaza Hotel, at 10.28 A.M., September 24, 1912, President LOUIS CANON-LEGRAND in the chair. At the desk, General Secretary ÉMILE JOTTRAND and Dr. MAX APT.

On the platform, Hon. CHARLES NAGEL, Secretary of Commerce and Labor for the United States, Hon. EUGENE N. FOSS, Governor of Massachusetts, Hon. JOHN F. FITZGERALD, Mayor of Boston, Mr. EDWARD A. FILENE, Vice-President of the International Congress and Mr. GEORGE S. SMITH, President Boston Chamber of Commerce, 1911.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME

Mr. George S. Smith, *Chairman of the Boston Executive Committee and President of the Boston Chamber of Commerce, 1911*

Delegates, Gentlemen, Friends from the four corners of this wide world, I give you greeting.

On behalf of the Boston Chamber of Commerce, the business men of Boston, the men and women who have for weeks and months labored hard and faithfully to make this Congress a great constructive success, I extend to you a most cordial and heartfelt welcome. (*Applause.*)

From the very first those of us who have been the more closely identified with the plans for this Congress have had but one high conception.

The corner stone and the building to stand for international good will brought about directly through the harmonizing and unifying of great international commercial practices; through commercial exchange between individuals and nations; those commercial exchanges to be initiated and extended upon the highest lines of national and international probity and honor; upon the highest lines of individual dignity, integrity, with the keynote, the recognition of mutuality of interest. (*Applause.*)

And in that spirit, gentlemen, and in recognition that our atmosphere here is permeated with practical ideality, I ask the representatives of each of the forty-six nations of the earth to, in turn, forge one link that stands for the commercial strength of your country, and bring those forty-six links and lay them here upon the forge of this Congress, and we in turn will endeavor to take those links upon the anvil of international good will, and link them into a mighty chain of international honor, of mutuality in commercial practice, and stretch that chain all around this world, encircling it securely with the compact commercial world repre-

sented by all the nations, who are after all of one blood, and one aspiration and one purpose, and that the practical ideals may be bound together, one and inseparable.

And in this spirit I give you Boston's cordial greeting and express Boston's most solicitous hope that this Congress will immediately take form in constructive results, and that the influence of this Fifth International Congress will be cumulative, and go down through all the ages, spelling progress as to the equitable and harmonious relations between the nations of the earth. (*Prolonged applause.*)

Gentlemen, we have as one of the men of the United States to address you this morning, a nation's statesman who stands as one of our President's chief councillors in his Cabinet, who is the Secretary of the Department of Commerce and Labor, a man who has traveled up and down the vast reaches of this country, that he might come into touch with the business men of all sections, who can impress them, by his own personal word and hand, with his close and intimate interests in the business world of his country. And therefore it becomes my high honor to present the Secretary of the Department of Commerce and Labor, Hon. CHARLES NAGEL, who will give you the greeting of the Government of the United States. (*Applause.*)

ADDRESS OF WELCOME ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Hon. Charles Nagel, *Secretary of Commerce and Labor*

Mr. President and Gentlemen:

It is my great privilege, in the name of the United States, to extend a hearty welcome to the members of this Congress. And in doing so I wish to congratulate the United States upon the fact that for this occasion this country was selected as the meeting place. And I want to congratulate the United States upon the fact that the great city of Boston is the host for this occasion, because the city of Boston has been a pioneer in promoting the idea of a closer commercial organization in order that cities, states and countries may speak with effect.

I am the more glad of this opportunity, because my short official experience has impressed me with the importance of an organization such as you have. As in our own country the improved methods of communication bring us closer together and help us realize that there is no such thing as ultimate advantage at the unfair expense of our neighbor, so in an equal sense the closer communications between the countries make it manifest that between foreign countries there must be a better understanding (*applause and expressions of approval*), there must be rules of the game that will make it possible to base all transactions and to measure them according to standards of equity and justice. (*"Hear, hear!" and applause.*)

I know it has been said that in international relations we have no law-giving power and we have no tribunal to enforce a law. That is true. But in view of the tremendous trend of over-legislation in practically all individual countries, I am not sure but what you may receive it as a subject of congratulation that there is at least one field in which you, the actors and the makers of commerce, may have an opportunity to work out your own salvation. (*"Hear, hear!" and applause.*) Those of us who watch the tremendous multitude of new laws must be impressed with the fact that there was great merit in the old system of working out your rules of the game by the custom of the country. And if you have an understanding, if you make your rules, and if you are put in a position to enforce those rules through the agency of your government, you may evolve a system of international commercial law more apt to respond intelligently to your needs than any legislative body could provide.

Perhaps our country ought to confess that in some measure it is not quite up to the standards which have been attained in some other countries. Comparatively speaking, we are a new country. For obvious reasons our attention has been centered upon domestic questions. We have been a country of such vast resources that we have been able from time to time to seek out new territory for the employment of our energies within our own domain. But by

degrees we are bound to recognize that there is a limit to that sort of employment even in our country with all its vast resources.

We have a system of government, besides, in which the individual state plays an important part, and under that system much of our attention has been given to the adjustment of just such questions involving interstate relations as you are here now engaged to consider with respect to the great countries of the world. Furthermore, we have had a protective system which has served to center our attention more especially upon our own affairs. But in respect to all these facts the trend is away from the past. We have entered the international field, not only politically but commercially, and we are interested with you in finding those standards and those rules by which international commerce may be justly and sanely governed. We are making progress. The department over which it is my privilege to preside is being organized with a view to meet just that situation, and our Chambers of Commerce in this country are awake to the fact that the old individualistic idea must be abandoned and that it must be replaced by the idea of intelligent co-operation, upon the theory that ultimately you must be willing to share with your neighbor.

Our cities no longer estimate their success by the failure of sister cities. Every city in our Union realizes that the advantage of every other city reflects upon it and that the failure of any other city must likewise reflect upon it. The spirit of co-operation is abroad, and if that be true within a country is it not equally true in the relations between foreign countries? Is it too much to say that to-day a wholesome, prosperous, successful country may justly rejoice in the success of a neighboring country? (*Applause.*) Is it not true that our security lies in the success of our neighbors and our chief danger lies in the unrest to which our neighbors may be subjected? (*Applause.*)

I need not recite to you what the subjects for consideration in a Congress of this kind may be. Your own program will indicate that better than I could state it. International relations must have true standards. The integrity of the dollar means the integrity of every paper based upon it: the integrity of money means the integrity of measure and weight; the character of measure and weight means the character of the goods; the character of the goods means the honesty of the label and of every declaration made with respect to it. (*"Hear, hear!" and applause.*) The field is a broad one. If you accomplish nothing else, the very fact of our meeting here together face to face could not be without its effect. Nothing is more dangerous than long-range shooting and talking. When men get together face to face to consider their wants, their needs and their rights, they come to the conclusion that after all we mightily resemble each other. Our desires are about the same, and our ambitions too, and by proper consideration of these questions we will all come to the conclusion that each one of us needs, as the foundation of his success, justice broad enough to be extended to his neighbor. More than that, the spirit of co-operation, of consideration of our neighbor, as the foundation of all ultimate success, is so broad and so general that throughout the world we are talking about peace and peace treaties. Suggestions have been submitted based upon standards as broad as the highest and most ideal that have ever been accepted, for the settlement of controversies between individual men. I care not whether this or that suggestion be precisely worded. That is not the question. What we are interested in is the trend which these suggestions show and in the fact that no one to-day denies that peace is an end to be desired. (*"Hear, hear!" and applause.*)

In my judgment, even more important than agreements arrived at as a result of diplomatic negotiations, far more important than these will be the results of just such Congresses as you here now hold. You represent legitimate self-interest. The questions to-day throughout the world are largely industrial. Controversies that arise will originate from that interest, and if you succeed in establishing rules of the game that will settle, determine and guide your negotiations and your dealings, the main cause for friction and controversy in the future has been removed. (*Applause.*)

Commerce is still the pioneer of civilization. (*Applause.*) Diplomacy may still open the door; diplomacy may still create an opportunity. It may still secure large influence here and

there; but in the final analysis your activities, your understandings among each other, will smooth the path for the diplomat.

Time was when rulers declared war for one purpose or another; the time has come when there is not an intelligent ruler in the world who does not want peace. The change is complete. If there be war or peace in the future it will be because the people declare it or maintain it; and, inasmuch as the responsibility rests with the people, the work of congresses of this kind is made the more important, because intelligent self-interest is the foundation of real peace, and all selfish interest is intelligent if it recognizes that the other man is entitled to the enjoyment of the same privilege. (*Applause.*)

What we want to establish is such a relation, so intimate commercially, and ultimately socially, that no country a party to your Congress will permit controversy, because it cannot afford to have it.

Gentlemen of the Congress, if a meeting of this kind were held in our country, if men representing interests in some measure competitive — as, of course, the relations of all countries with each other are competitive, — were to meet at the present time, there might be some fear expressed lest the real purpose did not appear upon the surface. There will be a disposition to read into the lines of your discussions a purpose that might have some effect upon competitive conditions. Be that as it may, and I have no doubt you have similar problems in some of your countries, — and if you haven't them now I suggest that you may have them later, because we have met some questions by anticipation that you will have to meet as the result of experience, — ultimately we will have to realize that you are not subject to the questions and the doubts that might obtain in our country, because the delegates of these countries may be trusted to take care of their interests and are here to promote the general cause of equity and justice under which all may thrive and prosper alike.

That being the plan, you may not be called altruists, as for instance a congress of artists or even scientists might be; but no one can doubt that the purpose which you have in mind is to promote a program of general advantage, integrity of standards, quick and keen justice, peace among the nations, and ultimately the advantage of every citizen and every part of the community that may participate, however remotely, in your transactions.

Gentlemen, in closing I want merely to say that any man in public life to-day must contemplate with peculiar gratification any congress which may be called to consider questions as grave as those which you have up for discussion, and which at the same time cannot be charged with selfishness but must have it conceded that its purpose is the general well-being and welfare not only of those whom you directly represent but of those whom the Congress as such represents throughout the world. (*Applause.*)

Chairman Smith: Gentlemen, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, from the standpoint of industrial development, is the fourth greatest Commonwealth in our Union of forty-eight states. Her present chief magistrate is a great captain of industry. From the outset he has given us his most solicitous interest and effective co-operation, to the end that this Congress be the success it should be. It now becomes my pleasure to introduce His Excellency Governor EUGENE N. FOSS, of Massachusetts. (*Applause.*)

ADDRESS OF WELCOME ON BEHALF OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Hon. Eugene N. Foss, Governor of Massachusetts

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen:

It is with great pleasure that I extend, on behalf of the Commonwealth, its greetings. The Commonwealth is indeed greatly honored that you should have chosen this city and this state for this your first meeting on American soil. It is significant that you are coming to us at this time, when a new era of commercial life is opening up. In the early years of this re-

public the clipper ships of the ports of Massachusetts circled the world, but of later years we have been engaged, as Secretary Nagel has told you, in the development of our internal affairs. It was the capital of Massachusetts and New England which so largely contributed to the development of the western section of the country. It was New England capital which built the great lines of railroads across the country and developed the great interior states of the West.

But to-day we are turning our attention to the development of the waterways, of the internal waterways of the country, and are looking abroad for new markets. Here in Massachusetts you will find the home of the cotton industry, you will also find the home of the boot and shoe industry, which we like to term the great American industry, for with a small degree of protection to this industry we have been able to command the markets at home and the markets of the world, until the American shoe is now found in every part of the world.

You will find here in Massachusetts not only the financial and industrial organizations which have contributed so much to build up the country, but you will also find those organizations which are conserving the natural resources of the country, like our forests and water-power, and which are working along the line of the further development of these resources which is going on.

We wish for the delegates a pleasing and profitable stay here. We know that your mingling among us will bring us much of good, and that the results will be beneficial to all; and we extend to you the warmest greetings of Massachusetts. (*Applause.*)

Chairman Smith: Gentlemen, when you received your appointments as delegates to the city of Boston, I apprehend that you looked for the statistical and numerical strength of Boston, and you read that Boston was a city of 670,000 people, with an industrial output of \$225,000,000.

Boston stands alone as to its unfortunate uniqueness of physical position. Our municipal area has but 38 square miles. Therefore, owing to congestion within those limits we have municipally but 670,000 people.

Within a stone's throw of where you now sit, and less than one thousand yards from where you now sit are two separate municipalities of over 100,000 people surging with industrial activity, and on the immediate outskirts of Boston, in co-terminous territory, immediately adjoining, and whose interests are interdependent, within twelve miles, a population of a million and a half people with an industrial output of \$560,000,000.

The Mayor of Boston, in turn, has shown his most intimate interest in the success of this great Congress. His effective co-operation has been evident on every hand, and I am sure some of you at least will be renewing an old acquaintance, because he was one of the Boston party of tourists to visit Europe last summer.

It now becomes my pleasure to introduce His Honor the Mayor of Boston, JOHN F. FITZGERALD. (*Applause.*)

ADDRESS OF WELCOME ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF BOSTON

Hon. John F. Fitzgerald, Mayor of the City of Boston

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Fifth International Congress:

I do not think that any one of us who journeyed across the water last summer ever thought that this gathering which I have the honor to address this morning, and to welcome formally to this great city of ours, would be as large in numbers and as distinguished in representation as it is, and we all, in Boston, owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. Filene, and to Mr. Fahy, who, two years ago at a similar Congress held in London, invited this gathering to Boston, and were the cause of such a distinction coming to this great city. (*Applause.*)

Mr. Smith has spoken about the industrial life of this community, its population, its vast wealth, the interrelationship of the suburban communities, with Boston; but there is another

activity going on here to-day that I want to say just a word about before I proceed to my formal address, because it is perhaps a phase of our American civilization that some of you will never elsewhere have the opportunity to see.

In this Commonwealth of ours, over which our distinguished Governor who has just addressed you presides, there is a political contest going on all over the state. Right here, within a short distance from this hotel, electioneering is going on; and you, gentlemen, who come from those parts of the world where property qualifications count, where the votes of men with vast property count ten to one hundred times as much as the vote of the man without a dollar, will be able to witness a practical exhibition of American democracy, because you can see, this morning or at any time until 4 o'clock this afternoon, the laborer walking side by side with the millionaire many times over, in the same booth, and the vote of one is as mighty and as potent as the vote of the other. And there is no better exhibition of America's doctrine, there is not a better example of American democracy, than can be found right within the precincts of this hotel; and I hope some of you will take advantage of the occasion and go out and see how the voting is done. (*Applause.*)

When a few years ago the American republics first realized that they had interests in common, a new word came into use, invented to express a certain unity among the peoples of the two continents. To Pan-Slavic and Pan-Germanic, with which you are familiar, there was added the term Pan-American. It awakened visions of inter-continental railroads and the enrichment of civilization through the opening of unexhausted tropical lands.

To-day we meet under the inspiration of a still larger concept. Envoys from forty nations, men of diverse languages, laws, customs and religions, are assembled in a common cause. From the unity of a single race or of a hemisphere our imaginations have progressed till they encircle the globe itself. We might call the movement Pan-terrestrial or Pan-human. Whatever its name, we greet you, gentlemen, as its champions and exponents, — rational visionaries, innocent schemers, peacefully plotting the good of all mankind.

The theme of your deliberations is commerce. Was there a time when this word had derogatory or even sinister implications? Perhaps in some feudal period, before men had learned to respect the dignity of every-day, useful things. Happily we breathe to-day the atmosphere of the twentieth century, in which the builder, the creator of wealth, is honored above the destroyer or the dreamer. You who sit here in council, merchants, bankers, manufacturers, engineers, operators of railroads, are the providers of the human family. Your ancestry reaches back to the primitive ages. Beneath war and change, turmoil and migration, your patient industry has nourished and clad the race. The statesman and the soldier may dazzle by their victories, but your conquests are less bloody and your influence more pervasive. The artist and the thinker may stand higher, but they do not come first. Reading history, we note that its luminous pages, those that treat of Athens, Rome, Venice, Florence, London, Spain and Holland, in their prime, record the expansion of trade and the inflow of foreign wealth co-existent with the bursting of whole generations into art and song. Far from being opposed, commerce and culture are sister wings of the human spirit. If either droops, the balance is lost and our flight becomes crippled and erratic.

One function of commerce is to facilitate intercourse and thus to mediate between the families of men. Your vessels have grooved the very waters of the sea with lanes of approved safety for travel. Your engines ride upon rails laid through mountain and jungle and over the inhospitable desert. Upon these highways the nations journey back and forth and meet for the exchange of goods. Thanks to this freedom of movement there is no longer any hermit nation, but a universal interpenetration of knowledge and ideals. Governments adopt common aims and approximate a common type. Universities exchange professors. Great actors and musical virtuosi are citizens of the world. The prophets of literature are honored in other countries as well as their own. A thousand influences knit together the peoples once estranged by isolation and ignorance.

This better understanding is but a preface to great accomplishments which await us in the near future. There are problems which cannot be solved except by international agree-

ment, such as universal peace, and until that comes to pass, a civilized code of warfare; the reduction of the cost of living; the prevention of plagues; the destruction of insect and animal pests; the adoption of a uniform calendar; a superior and more economical postal system; rules for safety at sea; the extradition of criminals; standard weights, monetary systems and commercial forms; the arrest and control of panics; and laws for the protection of patents and copyrights. Some of these are included in the program of your Congress. We look forward to authoritative discussions of these subjects and to conclusions which must carry weight with those in authority. For this reason the presence of so many representatives of governments is a most favorable augury as well as a signal honor. (*Applause.*)

In America, gentlemen, you will find a nation well disposed toward the international movement, because we are, ourselves, a cosmopolitan people. Every one of the sixteen languages in which your program is printed is spoken in this city, and there are other parts of the country far more polyglot than Boston. The extent of our territory and its diversities of climate and contour give us a continental breadth of view and forbid all provincial narrowness. It is hardly too much to say that as you continue your travels each of you will find something familiar, as well as many features that are new and strange, in the composite fabric of our national life.

But while other and more populous cities await your coming, it is our privilege to welcome you first and to receive you as our particular guests. We believe that Boston may possess some special attraction for men whose interests are commercial. Our settlement in the early seventeenth century is one of the romances of the sea, and all our history is salted with an ocean flavor. After the Revolution a trade with India and China developed here, and it was no uncommon exploit for adventurous captains in vessels of small tonnage to circumnavigate the globe by way of Cape Horn and the Cape of Good Hope. The whaling industry, now diminished, had its headquarters in nearby ports. Our fishing fleet, still the foremost in America, if not the world, is about to occupy a new pier with buildings specially designed for this business. Our coastwise commerce surpasses even that of Hamburg. Our foreign sailings are frequent and regular. Flotillas of pleasure craft are anchored in every bay and warships are built in an inlet of our harbor. In short, we New Englanders are still largely a sea-going people and it was no accident that the discovery of the North Pole was made by a native of Maine. (*Applause.*)

To saturate our youth with this atmosphere, a special school, the High School of Commerce, has been established, which trains boys for the commercial life. More than a thousand pupils attend this institution, and by the generosity of some of our business men several of them are sent each year to study the products and business customs of other countries. I trust that some of you may be able to visit this school.

Our parks, water basins and boulevards are also at your service. These, with the colleges and public buildings, the life along the water front, the business and manufacturing activities of the city and our suburban homes, may distract you pleasantly in the intervals of your more serious occupation. The Chamber of Commerce has already laid all its resources at your disposal for your personal comfort and entertainment. The citizens in general will follow your proceedings with a friendly and enlightened interest. By the city itself nothing will be left undone that may testify to our sentiments of cordiality and esteem. It is one of the distinctions of my life, as Chief Magistrate of Boston, to inaugurate this convention, the fifth of its kind and the first to be held in the western hemisphere. May its deliberations be fruitful and harmonious and your personal experiences such as to repay you for the fatigues of the long journeys you have made. If the results correspond to the high purpose and brilliant intelligence of this gathering, the Fifth Congress will surpass all its predecessors and will lay the foundations for achievements still more massive and substantial in the years to come. (*Applause.*)

Chairman Smith: As the business men of the United States read the commercial history of other nations they realize that long years ago you recognized the necessity for commercial

organizations first in your several cities, and again amalgamated into one national association that it might occupy at least a quasi-official relation to your governments who make the laws of commerce. We confess in America — or rather the United States — that we were self-centered, so fierce was the conflict to develop this great country of ours. But twenty-five years ago, in these various and many cities of ours, there came to be organized boards of trade, commercial associations and great chambers of commerce. And only as recently as this last April there was a new National Chamber of Commerce organized which has even in this short period gained an individual membership of over 100,000. And it becomes my pleasure to introduce the President of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, Mr. HARRY A. WHEELER of Chicago. (*Applause.*)

ADDRESS OF WELCOME ON BEHALF OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Mr. Harry A. Wheeler, President of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States

Gentlemen of the International Congress:

It is peculiarly gratifying that I should be able to represent, in this word of welcome to this Congress, by some authority, that of a national organization, the welcome which the commercial interests of this country extend to you. As the presiding officer has said, a year ago this would have been impossible, but, following the example which you have set for us in your countries, we have at last in this country endeavored to found a Chamber that shall be comparable to your own in the force that it shall exert for the benefit of this country's commercial interests. We are new and we have much to learn, and we expect to learn at your hands; and for that reason, if for no other, this Congress is doubly welcome to the commercial interests of this country. Their welcome to you is doubly cordial because of the benefits which we expect to receive as the result of your deliberations.

Now, in the point of welcome, that welcome which you shall receive in this most hospitable city of Boston is but an earnest of the cordial hospitality and the warm welcome that will be extended to you as you travel westward for a thousand miles and then retrace your steps to the seaboard. And I call you to note that when you have reached your farthest western point, my own beloved city of Chicago, there will still lie beyond an area more than two thousand miles in extent, dipping into the Pacific, and in that area there exist to-day by the hundreds chambers of commerce and boards of trade, men in business with hearts as warm, with hospitality as cordial as the best that you will meet in that part of our country which you will traverse, men who are interested in the results of this Congress, who deeply think of the things that you are going to do; who are disappointed because they will have no opportunity because of your lack of time to greet you with a warm hand and with hearty, cordial hospitality such as they are accustomed to give to those who visit them. (*Applause.*) Those who are the absent ones and those whom you will not see — from them I bring cordial greetings and a hearty welcome to this our country.

The business interests of the United States are deeply sensible of the importance of this great gathering. It signifies to us a recognition of a world interdependence; an acknowledgment that the happiness, the welfare and the prosperity of all the people are so interlaced that harm permitted to be done to the least of the nations must necessarily find its adverse effect upon the greatest. Commerce has laid upon its heart and its conscience, by those who are willing to attribute wrong to it, many atrocious crimes. Yet, save only for the influence of the great world-religions, commerce is the greatest single force in the world's civilization. (*Applause.*) And, further, gentlemen, save only for the same influence of which I have spoken, commerce will prove the greatest single force in the world's regeneration. A congress of this kind means unity of action. Commerce desires unity, because it is self-centered, as Secretary Nagel has said, and selfish. But that selfishness which absolutely resents inter-

ference with its progress — that selfishness which demands that obstacles shall be cleared away from the path of commerce — that selfishness which means progress to the world and has meant so much in the years that are passed, will in my judgment have a greater influence in the introduction of those things which we are looking for — particularly I am referring to international arbitration of individual and national disputes (*applause*) — than will observance of the Golden Rule or than will the introduction into the minds of the world's people the sentiment or the desire that universal peace shall result. Commerce will do more in the last analysis to create and maintain world peace than all other forces or influences which may be brought to bear upon that subject. (*"Hear, hear!" and applause.*) Commerce, because it is selfish, will again exercise its power and its influence in creating those conditions surrounding the industrial peoples of this world that will take them out of a voluntary servitude and will place them in such position that they are benefitted with all the people with the good things that come to us in life; that their interests shall be the interests of commerce, that their well-being shall be close to our hearts and that their uplift shall be our study and our pleasure to promote, because by the promotion of their well-being we are raising the standard of our commercial life, and are raising the standard of the products which our countries represent. If in no other way, gentlemen, than by the expression of the interdependence of the peoples of the world — if in no other way than by the influence which such congresses as this and such as the commercial interests shall exercise everywhere shall have upon the establishment of universal peace — if in no other way than that of raising the standard of living to those who work for a living and to make their environments and their conditions better — if in those three things these great Congresses shall succeed in laying broad and fine foundations, then these other questions that we are settling will largely be solved by the influences that are fundamental to the greater problems. And we will find as a result of our deliberations that those questions of international justice and equity are, after all, questions that will solve themselves when right principles have been laid at the foundation of the business world (*Applause.*)

Again, in the name of the commercial interests of this country, I give you a welcome. We are expecting much as a result of this meeting that we may learn from you, and if in some small measure we may have something to contribute out of our newer experiences to the wisdom of your conclusions in the deliberations you shall undertake, we shall be deeply gratified. But go where you will over this country of ours, you will find in our chambers of commerce that if given the opportunity they will teach you what it is to be hospitable, they will show you that measure of hospitality which we love to extend to those who visit us, and extend not only because of the cordial relations which we hope to establish, but because we desire you to know us better — to know what we have and what we are, what we are trying to do and what our aspirations may be. (*Applause.*)

Chairman Smith: Two years ago last May a director of the newly-formed Boston Chamber of Commerce, and the one man who was the most instrumental in the inception of the movement which led to the crystallization of the business bodies of Boston, had the large vision that if it were possible to hold this great Congress in Boston in 1912 it might not be a forlorn hope. The board of directors were delighted to pass unanimously their authority that this gentleman with others be authorized to extend the invitation in London, and with others he journeyed thither, and your presence here marks the success of his and their efforts. I take pleasure in introducing him, as he is, first, a splendid citizen of Boston, one of Boston's most successful men, the vice-president of this Congress, who will in turn show us the special courtesy, by virtue of his office, of introducing your and our magnificent permanent president. And the gentleman I refer to — and to introduce him is my great pleasure — is Mr. EDWARD A. FILENE of Boston. (*Applause.*)

ADDRESS OF WELCOME

Mr. Edward A. Filene, *Vice-President of the Fifth International Congress*

Delegates and Friends:

It is my double privilege, having been honored by you in being made vice-president of this gathering, and representing the Boston Chamber of Commerce, to add a brief word of heartfelt welcome and then to present to you the distinguished president of the Permanent Committee of the International Congress, who is to preside at these meetings.

To welcome so many captains of industry and generals of finance from all parts of the world is a great pleasure and a great honor. You are the men who win the decisive victories of peaceful times. The intense interest which your coming has aroused in the United States is evidence that the fame of your victories has spread. One proof that this interest is not passive is the fact that over ninety North and South American business organizations have joined the International Congress during the past year, in order to profit by the discussions and to aid in this welcome.

To-day you concentrate here more than three hundred commercial associations. You not only bring together the official representation of these influential organizations, but center on this hemisphere for the first time your combined knowledge. Here is a great opportunity. For our guests, as well as we Americans, know that when ten men sit down to reason together in a friendly way, a new fund of knowledge is created. Every one may draw on this fund and add to his own store of knowledge that of the other nine men. The power of each may be increased not once but tenfold, so that the result may be, not ten times one, but ten times ten or a hundred. And if we call the individual knowledge of a man a unit of efficiency, then the consultation may result in one hundred units of efficiency.

And so here, too, each of us may command the individual knowledge of his seven hundred fellow delegates. The circle of ten has increased seventy-fold among the wisest business men of the world. And the corresponding possible result becomes nearly half a million units of efficiency. (*Applause.*) That may seem an American exaggeration (*laughter*); but, gentlemen, underneath it lies the truth, and it is that truth that is the surest guaranty that these congresses will grow and grow and grow, because there will be created this new and greater fund of efficiency which shall bring nations more and more into co-operation one with the other, enriching the world and making us all wiser and better.

I have called you the wisest of business men. This is not flattery, it is the truth. For if a successful business man has grasp and vision and imagination enough to give him international sympathy which is capable of appreciating the benefits to the world born of international co-operation, he is surely wise. Then if this understanding is of strength sufficient to carry him over mountains and seas to this great meeting, he is, I say, one of the world's wisest business men. (*Applause.*)

So, also, will the friendships which we form in Boston be the wisest of friendships. They are to include all of us, I hope, for no member of this Congress needs a formal introduction to a fellow delegate. (*Applause.*) These friendships, tying us together years after we have returned to our scattered homes, mean much to the world. This Congress adjourns Thursday, but the friendships to which we look forward will keep its influence constantly alive, constantly helpful. The world, as well as all of us, will benefit from such international friendships.

When we were last together in London I had the great honor, on behalf of the Boston Chamber, to invite you to visit the United States, making at that time some promises which I hope we will fulfil. I told you that in coming to the United States, you were coming home. I told you that the United States, after all, was not made by the Indians. (*Laughter.*) I am talking of our own Indians now, not of the East Indians, some of whom I see here. (*Laughter.*) But America was made, I said, by the Englishmen and the Frenchmen and the Germans and the Italians — I will stop here, for it would take up too much of your time to enumerate all of the nations which have made up the America and the United States that you are now visiting.

And so you come this morning to your own, not to a strange country, but to your home land. You are among your brothers who sailed westward to build a brotherhood nation. Here you will instantly recognize the colors of your home lands blending to make up the whole we call America. The forty or more nationalities represented by you are the real creators of the United States and its people, who are honored by your coming. (*Applause.*) The State, the City, and the Chamber, recognizing this debt of our nation to you, rejoice that this opportunity of being your hosts will enable them to assist you in a still greater service. For they see in the Congress a long step in the advance towards the day when we business men of all nations shall be able to apply internationally what we have individually learned from our own business, — namely, that all business and all relations, to be permanent and really advantageous, must be mutually helpful. (*Applause.*)

And it is on this basis that I predict our advance. We shall pass onward through the questions to which this Congress must now necessarily limit itself. From these, in the fullness of time, we shall pass upward to those far greater, far more important questions which are not only fundamental to the best commercial relations between nations, but are as well the basis of peace on earth and good will to men. (*Applause.*) Not that I minimize the things we are now doing. Though after all they are only the foundation stones — still they are the important foundation stones which must be strong and well laid if the great superstructure is ever to be completed. It is with these thoughts in mind that we bid you thrice welcome.

My privilege has still another great pleasure in store — to present to you Monsieur LOUIS CANON-LEGRAND of Belgium, citizen of the world, President of the International Congress, presiding officer of this meeting. Monsieur Canon-Legrand personifies the initiative of our always far-sighted Belgian brothers, who brought the first Congress into being at Liège in 1905.

Steadily thereafter, he piloted the work at Milan, at Prague, at London, and now to-day he comes to guide us here with the same master-hand which has for years kept this great International Congress on its safe and prosperous course and off the dangerous rocks of international differences.

Head of the federated commercial and industrial associations of Belgium, Monsieur Canon-Legrand has, since the International Congress came into existence, given freely of his great tact and his knowledge of international affairs, that we might fulfil our opportunity. Many international government conferences and many international economic movements of great importance owe their life to these congresses. All received their share of impetus from Monsieur Canon-Legrand. And, likewise, here we are to be directed by his knowledge — and directed, I feel sure, to great ends, to success which our home lands will look upon with justifiable pride. Gentlemen, I have the great pleasure of presenting to you our presiding officer and President, Monsieur LOUIS CANON-LEGRAND. (*Applause.*)

MONSIEUR LOUIS CANON-LEGRAND

President of the Permanent Committee of the International Congress

Monsieur le Président, Messieurs:

C'est le cœur plein d'une profonde émotion que je me lève pour répondre aux bienvenues trop cordiales qui nous ont été adressées par les orateurs qui m'ont précédé à cette tribune. Si je me sers de ma langue, le français, c'est qu'il est bon d'employer celle que l'on connaît le mieux et avec laquelle on exprime le mieux les sentiments de son cœur. Sinon, messieurs, je devrais, au nom des délégués de tous les pays, ici présents, vous parler toutes les langues de la terre.

Je suis donc particulièrement heureux de pouvoir, au nom de tous les délégués étrangers venus à Boston, adresser nos remerciements chaleureux à l'ancien président de la Chambre de Commerce de Boston, M. Smith, au secrétaire du Département de Commerce et du Travail, M. Charles Nagel, au gouverneur de l'État du Massachusetts, M. Foss, au maire de la ville de

Boston, M. Fitzgerald, ainsi qu'au président de la Chambre de Commerce des États-Unis à Washington; et enfin, je dois des remerciements tout spéciaux à mon ami — je l'appelle ainsi — M. Filene, que j'ai eu l'honneur de connaître il y a deux ans à Londres, et avec qui depuis lors des relations se sont suivies de la façon la plus cordiale.

Messieurs, laissez-moi vous dire quelques mots en français — car je me propose de vous adresser la parole en anglais aussi — pour reconnaître la gracieuse hospitalité de nos hôtes; laissez-moi vous dire, à moi, qui ai vu grandir l'œuvre des Congrès des Chambres de Commerce, combien il est réconfortant, combien il est puissant pour l'avenir de voir le très grand nombre de délégués présents dans cette salle. Nous avons commencée, on vous l'a rappelé tout à l'heure, en Belgique, où nous n'étions que quelques centaines, trois cents, trois cent cinquante; l'œuvre s'est accrue, s'est développée; elle est allée en Italie, en Bohême, à Londres — nous étions six cents à Londres, — et aujourd'hui, messieurs, malgré les difficultés du voyage, — car je ne vous cache pas que pour nous, européens, la traversée de l'Atlantique n'est pas une petite affaire — nous sommes venus du vieux monde plus de sept cents pour répondre à la cordiale invitation de nos amis des États-Unis de l'Amérique du Nord.

Voilà les développements de l'œuvre. Et la raison en est bien simple: c'est que les hommes de bonne volonté, que vous êtes tous, se trouvent et se trouveront toujours de plus en plus nombreux; c'est que, dans les affaires de commerce, d'industrie, d'affaires, la même mentalité nous anime tous. Nous avons tous la même conscience des intérêts généraux, et en règle générale, dès que nous discutons nos questions, immédiatement nous sommes tous d'accord. Voilà la raison des réunions pareilles à celle-ci.

J'ai été très heureux tout à l'heure d'entendre l'honorable président de la Chambre de Commerce des États-Unis nous dire quelle était l'influence du commerce sur les relations internationales. En deux mots, on peut dire: Le commerce, c'est la paix — *Commerce is peace.* (*Applaudissements.*)

Je ne veux pas abuser plus longtemps de vos moments, car nous avons à commencer notre session et à travailler. Je vais donc me permettre, par courtoisie pour nos hôtes, de vous dire en anglais de quelle façon je comprends notre œuvre.

(*Translation*)

Mr. President, Gentlemen:

With a heart full of profound emotion, I rise to respond to the cordial welcome which has been given us by the speakers who have preceded me on this platform. If I use the French language, it is because it is good for one to employ that which he knows best and in which he can express best the sentiments of his heart. Otherwise, gentlemen, I should have, in the name of all the delegates present, to address you in all the languages of the earth.

I am particularly happy to be able, on behalf of all the delegates that have come to Boston, to address our heartfelt thanks to the former President of the Chamber of Commerce of Boston, Mr. Smith; to the Secretary of the Department of Commerce and Labor, Mr. Charles Nagel; to the Governor of Massachusetts, Mr. Foss; to the Mayor of the City of Boston, Mr. Fitzgerald, and to the President of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States at Washington; and lastly I owe my most particular thanks to my friend — I call him thus — Mr. Filene, whom I had the honor to meet two years ago in London, and with whom I have had since most cordial relations.

Gentlemen, let me tell you briefly in French, as I propose to address you in English also, in order to acknowledge the gracious hospitality of our hosts; let me tell you, I, who have seen the congresses of the Chambers of Commerce grow, how comforting, how full of hope it is for the future, to see this large number of delegates present in this hall. We began, as you have heard it said before, in Belgium, where we were only a few hundred; the work has grown, has developed; we went to Italy, to Bohemia, to London — we were six hundred in London — and to-day, gentlemen, notwithstanding the difficulties of the trip — for I will not conceal from you that for us Europeans the crossing of

the Atlantic is not a small affair — we have come from the old world more than seven hundred strong, to answer the cordial invitation of our friends of the United States of North America.

Thus the work developed. And the reason is very simple; it is because men of good will, as you all are, will always be in the majority; because in the affairs of commerce, industry and business, the same thought animates us all. We are all conscious of the general interest of the community, and as a general rule, when we discuss our questions, we agree immediately. This is the reason for meetings similar to the present one.

I have been very happy to hear the Honorable President of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States tell us of the influence of commerce on international relations. In short, one may say that commerce means peace. (*Applause.*)

I do not wish to encroach on your time, as we have to begin our session and get to work. I will take the liberty, as a courtesy to our hosts, to tell you in English how I understand our work.

M. le Président: Messieurs, nous commençons donc nos travaux. Je vous dois quelques explications sur la façon dont nous comptons procéder. Les rapports ont été envoyés en trois langues différentes, et chacun des rapporteurs viendra faire devant vous un bref résumé de ces rapports. Nous prions les rapporteurs de vouloir bien, après ce résumé, transcrire eux-mêmes, pour l'exactitude des renseignements à donner à la presse, les résumés qu'ils auront faits.

Messieurs, avant de commencer l'ordre du jour, je dois vous donner connaissance des télégrammes que nous avons reçus.

(*Translation*)

Gentlemen, we are about to begin our work. It is proper that I should give a few explanations of our methods of proceeding. Reports have been sent to you in three different languages, and each of the Reporters will give you a brief summary of these reports. We would ask the Reporters, after their brief statements, to kindly transcribe, themselves, for the sake of giving exact accounts to the press, the summaries which they will have made.

Now, gentlemen, before beginning on the order of the day, I wish to bring to your notice some of the telegrams which we have received:

Remerciements sincères pour aimable invitation; malheureusement impossible en profiter, vu élections à la Douma. Meilleurs vœux pour travaux du Congrès. Prospérité pour votre Chambre.

DE MILLER, *Président de Varsovie.*

(*Translation*)

Sincere thanks for kind invitation; unfortunately impossible to take advantage of it, on account of elections to the Douma. Best wishes for the work of the Congress, and for the prosperity of your Chamber.

DE MILLER, *President, Warsaw.*

Télégramme de la Chambre de Commerce de Paris et les Chambres de Commerce étrangères établies à Paris, exprimant leurs vœux réunis pour le succès le plus complet du Congrès.

(*Translation*)

Telegram from the Chamber of Commerce of Paris and the foreign Chambers of Commerce established in Paris expresses their united wishes for the complete success of the Congress.

As President and on behalf of London Chamber Commerce and myself, I wish Congress all success; trust that among other useful objects achieved, it may lead statesmen to take in hand calendar reform and fixed Easter date; much regret, was prevented attending.

DESBOROUGH.

Compliments have also been received from the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce.

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FIXED DATE FOR EASTER, AND THE REFORM OF THE CALENDAR

M. Louis Canon-Legrand, *President of the Congress*

Messieurs:

Pour les discussions, je prierais les orateurs qui voudront prendre la parole de se faire inscrire en donnant leur carte de visite au secrétaire, afin de savoir exactement l'ordre et les noms des orateurs.

L'ordre du jour de la présente séance comporte d'abord une communication que j'ai à vous faire au sujet de la fixation de la date de Pâques.

Vous avez tous reçu le petit rapport, la mise au point de la question que j'ai faite. Je la résume en quelques mots: ce fut en 1907 que la variabilité de la fête de Pâques, qui peut atteindre trente-cinq jours, fut discutée par nous. Les inconvénients résidaient dans la vie commerciale, dans le régime des écoles et dans les transactions commerciales. Si Pâques tombe en mars, c'est une saison manquée pour certaines industries. Après le Congrès en 1908, la question fut portée à l'ordre du jour. Elle était très connue en Allemagne, mais peu dans les autres pays. C'est au Congrès de Londres, en 1910, il y a deux ans, que cette question fut traitée à fond, ainsi que celle de la fixité du calendrier. Il est essentiel d'avoir, dans le calendrier, un nombre exact de semaines; il faut pour cela supprimer un jour sur les 365. Dans toutes les industries, dans tous les commerces, la question de la paye, qui se fait le 30 du mois ou le 15 du mois, peut être réglée ainsi beaucoup plus régulièrement; pour les banques, pour les maisons de finance, il est essentiel que tous les mois se terminent de la même façon, et le Congrès de Londres a donc émis l'avis qu'il serait désirable d'arriver à l'établissement du calendrier fixe international.

Vous savez, messieurs, comment nous procédons. Notre comité permanent se borne à émettre des vœux, et nous nous efforçons d'obtenir de l'une ou l'autre nation la convocation de conférences diplomatiques qui amènent les législatures des différents pays à s'occuper de ces questions.

Ce fut le cas pour la question du calendrier au sujet de laquelle le gouvernement Suisse a pris l'initiative de conférences internationales. Nous n'avons donc plus à discuter cette question, mais ce que nous tenons à faire, c'est de la vulgariser en Amérique. Il est d'autant plus intéressant de signaler la chose, que cette année même, en juin dernier, il y a quelques mois à peine, le Congrès des Chambres de Commerce de l'Empire Britannique a passé une résolution unanime à ce sujet.

Voilà donc, messieurs, le but de ma communication. Je l'ai résumé brièvement. Vous avez tous la traduction en anglais et en allemand, mais je suis prêt à donner la parole, et notamment, j'ai, comme orateur inscrit, M. F. FAITHFULL BEGG. Je suis donc prêt à donner la parole à ceux qui voudront, dans un but de vulgarisation plus grand en Amérique, entretenir l'assemblée de la question.

(Translation)

Gentlemen:

During the discussion, I would ask the speakers who wish to be heard to register themselves by giving their visiting cards to the Secretary in order that we may know exactly the order and names of the speakers.

The order of the day of the present session contains first a communication which I have to make to you on the subject of the establishment of a fixed date for Easter.

You have all received a little report containing a brief outline of the question. I will sum this up in a few words: In 1907 the variability of the season of Easter, which can extend to thirty-five days, was discussed by us. Considerable inconvenience is occasioned in commercial life, in the school sessions and in commercial transactions. If

Easter falls in March it is a ruined season in certain industries. After the Congress of 1908, the question was placed on the order of the day. It was already well known in Germany, but little in other countries. At the Congress of London, in 1910, two years ago, this question was discussed thoroughly, as well as that of the uniformity of the calendar. It is essential to have in the calendar an exact number of weeks. It therefore becomes necessary to suppress one day of the 365. In all industries, in all business, the question of payment of wages, when made the 30th of the month or the 15th, can be arranged far more conveniently; for banks and financial houses it is important that all the months should end on the same day, and the London Congress has therefore expressed the opinion that it would be desirable to arrange for the establishment of a fixed international calendar.

You know, gentlemen, how we proceed. It is the duty of our Permanent Committee to pass votes, and we make efforts to obtain from one nation or another the convocation of diplomatic conferences which shall lead the legislatures in the different countries to take up these questions.

Such was the case with the question of the calendar in regard to which the Swiss Government took the initiative to bring about international conferences. It is therefore no longer necessary for us to discuss this question, but what we have to do is to popularize it in America. It is therefore the more interesting to note the fact that this present year, in June last, that was only a few months ago, the Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the British Empire unanimously passed a resolution on this subject.

This, gentlemen, is the purpose of my report. I have summed it up briefly. You all have the translation in English and in German, and I am ready to yield to another speaker, having noted Mr. F. FAITHFULL BEGG. We are then ready to hear those who wish to speak to the meeting on this question with the purpose of a greater popular interest in the topic in America.

Mr. F. Faithfull Begg, Chairman of the Council of the London Chamber of Commerce

Mr. President and Gentlemen:

I desire, having been especially requested to do so, to say a very few words on the subject of the President's communication on behalf of the London Chamber of Commerce, which I have the honor to represent here on this occasion. (*Applause.*)

The London Chamber of Commerce, ever since it was instructed in the merits of this controversy by your respected President some years ago, has been enthusiastically in favor of the reforms which he so eloquently advocates.

There are two questions involved, two questions of very great importance. One is the regularization of the date of Easter, and there is the question of the adoption of a new calendar system. Now I shall not detain you more than a very few minutes, but I should like to say a few words upon each of these subjects.

Possibly here in the United States you may not have appreciated the difficulties which arise in connection with the variable date upon which Easter falls. These difficulties are well explained in the communication of the President, and I do not propose to enter into them at all.

What I wish to point out more particularly to those who have not perhaps profoundly studied this subject, is that there is no reason whatever why you should have a variable date for Easter. It is an old arrangement, into the reasons for which I will not enter, but if we would only be content to regulate Easter by the sun, instead of regulating the date by the moon, we should get to a point where we might have annually a fixed date for Easter.

That seems a very simple matter, but it is by no means so simple; and it is satisfactory to know that, looking at the difficulties from an international point of view, this Congress has already been able to interest the various governments in Europe in the question, and I think we may fully hope that in a short time a satisfactory result will be brought about.

One point I desire to mention in connection with both questions: I will state that my

own Chamber is in favor, but I wish to draw your special attention to a paragraph in the President's communication toward the close, where he mentions that the seventh Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the British Empire, meeting last June, passed unanimously a favorable resolution.

I wish to point out to you that that represents the combined wisdom, if I may use the word "wisdom," of the Chambers of Commerce of the British Empire, a new organization which has been brought into existence quite recently which met the other day in London and which contained in its membership representative men from all parts of the British Empire.

Now, gentlemen, with your permission I should like to say one word about the calendar. I am not going to discuss the calendar, because again, the President has provided us with full information with regard to what it is proposed should be done in that connection, but I wish to mention for a special reason a fact which I think is perhaps not well known to every one in this room, and it is this: That there is here, on the American continent, proof that before America was discovered by Columbus there existed on these shores a system for the most accurate adjustment of civil and solar time, and a system which was superior in its method to that in use in Europe in the days of Columbus, and to the calendar year under which we regulate our affairs to-day, the calendar of the Pope Gregory.

You may see for yourselves, if you choose to visit the place, the calendar stone of the Aztecs of Mexico. It exists in the form of a sun-stone, twelve inches in diameter, sculptured with great dexterity and fineness, and this stone is both a sun-dial and a calendar similar to that which was used by the Egyptians and the Chaldeans in time long gone by. By means of this stone the Mexican priests determined not only the time of day, but they determined the solstices, and they kept account of years and of days. On the face of the stone there are inscriptions including the division of the year into weeks and into days, and the extraordinary thing is that that stone includes also the computation of centuries, with greater exactness, as I have said, than that of the modern Gregorian calendar.

The error, and those of you who understand the error in the calendar will appreciate the force of this point, is equivalent to only one day in thousands of years. (*Applause.*)

This stone is supposed to have been made in the year 1479 of our Lord; but the science upon which it is based must have taken enormous periods to evolve, wherever that science came from, whether it was European or native born. How that stone came into existence nobody has been able to determine; but there it is.

Now I have mentioned this extraordinary fact because in conversation with the President, who is a master of this subject, I mentioned it to him. I do not suppose he will think I am giving away his confidence when he told me frankly that he had never heard of it. And I suppose there must be gentlemen here present from Europe who are in the same position. I am perfectly satisfied that every one here who comes from the United States knows all about this stone (*laughter*), has carefully examined it and has probably a theory of how it came into existence. My idea is that this stone should be brought into play in connection with the proposal for the reform of the calendar, and at all events that the system in existence, as I have said, in this country before the discovery of the country by Columbus should have a show in the negotiations which are going on in connection with the reform of the calendar. (*Applause.*)

M. le Président: Je remercie M. Begg de son intéressante communication. Il est exact que c'est une contribution nouvelle. La question du calendrier a été étudiée, nous n'avons pas l'intention de la discuter à nouveau, mais il est très intéressant de savoir qu'avant même que Christophe Colomb eut découvert l'Amérique, il y avait déjà une pierre sur laquelle un calendrier très remarquable avait été tracé, par des Américains qui vous précédaient tous.

J'ai encore une demande de parole pour le calendrier, de M. ERNST KRAUSE.

(*Translation*)

I wish to thank Mr. Begg for his interesting communication. It is a fact that this is a new contribution. The question of a calendar has been studied, and it is not our

intention to discuss it again, but it is very interesting to know that even before Christopher Columbus discovered America there already existed a stone upon which a very remarkable calendar was engraved by Americans who preceded all of you.

I have a further request, that the platform be given, on the subject of the calendar, to Mr. ERNST KRAUSE.

Herr Ernst Krause, Vice-President of the Lower Austrian Association for Promotion of Handicraft, Vienna

Meine verehrten Herren vom Fünften Kongreß!

Wir haben sehr viel darüber gehört und gelesen, wie die Vereinfachung des Kalenders durchgeführt werden sollte, und wie es möglich ist, Ostern auf einen bestimmten Tag zu legen.

Die Mitglieder der Handelskammer, die ich zu vertreten die Ehre habe, sind vollständig mit allem einverstanden, was in dieser Richtung beschlossen wird; aber, meine Herren, wir sind praktische Kaufleute, und als praktische Kaufleute müssen wir uns sagen, es wird noch eine lange Zeit dauern, bis sich alles das durchführen läßt, was hier und in den früheren Kongressen beschlossen worden ist.

(Translation)

Greatly esteemed Gentlemen of the Fifth Congress:

We have heard and read a good deal concerning the simplification of the calendar and the manner in which it will be possible to fix a definite date for Easter.

The members of the Chamber of Commerce, whom I have the honor of representing, are entirely conformable with everything that is going to be decided in that respect; but considering, gentlemen, that we are practical merchants we necessarily must realize as such practical merchants that it will require a long time before everything can be adopted that has been decided in former congresses and which may be decided upon now.

At this point the speaker was interrupted by the President and finished his remarks as first speaker in the afternoon session.

Meeting adjourned at 12.25.

Second Session

The members of the Congress reassembled at 2.30 P.M.

President Canon-Legrand

Nous résumons les travaux de ce matin.

Je commence d'abord par vous demander de laisser, autant que possible, la première rangée de chaises libre. Cela nous permettra de donner aux délégués officiels des gouvernements étrangers, qui sont une trentaine, la place à laquelle, normalement, ils auraient eu droit sur l'estrade. Comme celle-ci est trop petite, il faut bien que nous leur donnions satisfaction autrement et avoir pour eux les égards auxquels ils ont droit.

La parole est continuée à M. KRAUSE.

(Translation)

We will resume our labors of this morning.

I will begin by asking you to kindly leave the first row of seats vacant, as far as possible. This will permit us to extend to the official delegates of foreign governments the right which, ordinarily, they would have to seats on the platform. As the platform is not large enough, we shall have to make other arrangements to accord them the precedence to which they are entitled.

Mr. KRAUSE has the floor.

Herr Ernst Krause (continued)

Meine verehrten Herren!

Entschuldigen Sie, daß ich jetzt noch einmal zurückkomme auf das Thema, welches wir heute vormittag begonnen haben. Ich habe Ihnen bereits zum Ausdruck gebracht, daß alle maßgebenden Faktoren in Wien damit einverstanden sind, daß das Osterfest auf einen bestimmten Tag gelegt wird, und daß ein einheitlicher Kalender für die ganze Welt eingeführt wird. Aber ich wollte auch zum Ausdruck bringen, daß es sehr unpraktisch wäre, wenn wir darauf warten wollten, bis die kirchlichen Autoritäten und die staatlichen Autoritäten sich bereit finden, sich über einen derartigen einheitlichen Kalender zu einigen. Bis dahin, meine Herren, müssen wir praktischen Kaufleute etwas anderes finden, um das Übel wenigstens ein klein wenig zu beseitigen, und da möchte ich den geehrten Herren ins Gedächtnis zurückrufen, daß wir in jedem Lande bis heute vollständig ohne Kenntnis dessen sind, welche Feiertage und Ruhetage in den anderen Ländern üblich sind, und wenn wir auch das eine oder andere Mal es in unseren Zeitungen lesen, so vergessen wir sehr schnell darüber, und kein Kaufmann kann sich die Tage aller der Länder, mit welchen er korrespondiert, im Gedächtnis behalten, um seine Dispositionen entsprechend zu treffen. Ich will Ihnen ganz kurz ein Beispiel geben:

Ich hatte meine Dispositionen so getroffen, daß ich am 2. September in New York eintröffe, vom Morgen des 2. Septembers bis zum Abend eine bestimmte Arbeit verrichte und dann nach Chicago weiterfahre. Ich hatte keine Ahnung davon, daß am 2. September der Labor Day ist, an welchem es unmöglich ist, irgendwelche Geschäfte in Amerika zu verrichten. Nun glaube ich, daß dem ein klein wenig abgeholfen werden könnte, wenn wir, die wir im internationalen Verkehr stehen, auf unseren Briefbogen, auf unseren Mitteilungen an unsere Geschäftsfreunde im internationalen Verkehr diejenigen Tage annonciieren, an welchen wir nicht arbeiten. Dadurch können wichtige Interessen geschont werden. Viele Geschäfte hängen davon ab, daß man innerhalb einer ganz bestimmten Zeit eine Antwort erteilt. Und wenn

man diese Antwort nicht bekommen kann, weil der andere Partner einen Feiertag hat und keine Telegramme bekommt, so können dadurch grosse Interessen geschädigt werden.

Außerdem, meine Herren, glaube ich, daß es möglich ist, auch die großen Tageszeitungen aller Länder dahin zu interessieren, daß auch diese jedes Mal, wenn in einem anderen Lande Feiertag ist, diese Mitteilung dem Publikum zukommen lassen. Wenn auf diese Weise, sowohl durch unsere eigene Korrespondenz als auch durch die Tageszeitungen veröffentlicht wird, wann Feiertage sind, so wird bis zur Festlegung des internationalen Kalenders ein großer Teil desjenigen Schadens vermieden werden, der uns so oft trifft und der uns dahin geführt hat, daß wir einen internationalen Kalender anstreben. Aus diesem Grunde bitte ich den Fünften Kongreß der vereinigten Handelskammern meinen Vorschlag zu unterstützen, daß alle Handelskammern aufgefordert werden, ihre Mitglieder dahin zu informieren, daß sie auf ihren Briefköpfen die Feiertage des eigenen Landes angeben und ferner dahin wirken, daß die Zeitungen des eigenen Landes die Feiertage der fremden Länder annoncieren.

(Translation)

Gentlemen:

Please pardon me, if I refer again to the subject which we began this morning. I have already called to your attention that all important factors in Vienna have agreed that the Easter holidays should be set for a definite date and that a uniform calendar should be introduced for the entire world, but I also wish to say that it would be very impractical if we should wait until the ecclesiastical authorities and the state authorities are ready to unite on such a uniform calendar. Until then, gentlemen, we practical business men must find another solution to reduce the annoyance in a measure. I think that as a rule we citizens of the various countries are at the present time more or less ignorant of the feasts and holidays in other countries. Even though we may read about them from time to time in our papers we are liable to forget very soon thereafter, and no merchant can keep in mind the holidays of all the countries with which he corresponds and which he must consider in his arrangements. I will give you a brief example:

I had made my arrangements to arrive in New York on September 2 to do certain definite work during the day and to continue my trip to Chicago that evening. I had no suspicion that September 2 was Labor Day, upon which it is impossible to transact business anywhere in America. Now I think that this could be somewhat improved if those of us who engage in international business would state on our letterheads for our communications to business friends abroad the list of days upon which no business is done. This would prevent many serious mishaps. Many transactions depend on the receipt of an answer within a limited time. And if this answer cannot be received because the other party has a holiday and does not receive his telegram, large transactions are liable to miscarry.

Furthermore, gentlemen, I believe it is possible to interest all the large newspapers everywhere and have them publish, for the benefit of the public, the dates of holidays in foreign lands. In this way, until the inauguration of the international calendar, a large part of the annoyances which have harassed us up to the present time can be avoided, until we have agreed upon an international calendar. For these reasons I ask the Fifth Congress of the United Chambers of Commerce to endorse my suggestion that all chambers of commerce be asked to advise their members to indicate on their letterheads the holidays in their own countries and further take steps to have their newspapers announce the holidays in foreign countries.

M. le Président: Je remercie M. Krause pour ses observations. Il vient de me demander que, en attendant que l'on ait obtenu le calendrier général, on puisse, au moins, de pays à pays, savoir quels sont les jours fériés. Aujourd'hui, dit-il, les commerçants d'un pays ignorent quels sont les jours fériés dans les autres pays. C'est donc, en somme, une communication dont nous pouvons simplement faire état dans nos procès-verbaux. De la sorte, toutes les

chambres de commerce affiliées à notre comité permanent seront tenues au courant de ce désir très légitime.

Je ne pense pas qu'il soit autrement question de provoquer une décision du congrès à ce sujet. J'estime donc que nous pouvons prendre l'intéressante proposition de M. Krause pour notification à tous nos adhérents. Vous aurez satisfaction ainsi, M. Krause.

Le congrès, donc, donnera notification à tous les adhérents de l'intéressante observation que vous avez faite et qui permettra ainsi aux négociants des différents pays de savoir d'avance quels sont les jours fériés dans un pays ou dans un autre.

J'ai maintenant comme orateur inscrit, M. ALFRED ASLETT.

(Translation)

I beg to thank Mr. Krause for his remarks. He asks me if while awaiting the introduction of the universal calendar we might at least know from country to country what the holidays are. At present, he says, the business men of one country are not aware of the holidays in other countries. This is, in brief, a communication which we need only to note in our proceedings. In this manner all the chambers of commerce affiliated with our Permanent Committee will be informed of this very reasonable desire.

I do not think there is any question of demanding a decision of the Congress on this subject. I think, therefore, that we may receive the very interesting suggestion made by Mr. Krause for the information of our members. This will probably be satisfactory to Mr. Krause.

The Congress will, therefore, advise all its members of the valuable suggestion which you have made which would enable business men of different countries to know in advance what the holidays are in countries abroad.

I will now recognize the next speaker, Mr. ALFRED ASLETT.

Mr. Alfred Aslett, *Secretary and General Manager Furness Railway; Delegate from Barrow-in-Furness Chamber of Commerce*

Mr. President, Gentlemen:

I feel diffident in speaking on this subject, for many others are more capable of doing so than myself. I think I am the only representative of the English railways at this great Congress to-day. There are two competitive proposals for the new international calendar which have been submitted in the circular which you have all seen and which sets them forth in detail. That of Professor Grosclaude is embodied, so far as England is concerned — and when I say England I mean Scotland and Ireland as well — in Mr. Robert Pearce's Calendar Reform Bill. The other, the proposal by Mr. John C. Robertson, is embodied in Sir Henry Dalziel's Fixed Calendar Bill. Of the first, that of Professor Grosclaude, I will not go into details, but that of Mr. Robertson, which I think appeals to most of us — I hope it does — provides that Sunday will be the first day in every month and Saturday will be the last day, and there will be equal quarters each of three months or ninety-one days. This will give the 364 days. There are other important details which I will not detain the Congress by going into, because I might take far too long and we should all be weary. The adoption of this plan, as stated in the little post-card which has been circulated, would simplify commerce, banking, bookkeeping and the arrangement of all public and private business, and effect a saving of work, worry and waste. To that should be added that the payment of wages which are paid monthly would be greatly facilitated.

Speaking as one of the railway managers in Great Britain, I have no hesitation in saying that a fixed date for Easter, either as proposed by Professor Grosclaude, — that is, Easter Sunday on April 14; or that of Mr. John C. Robertson, Easter Sunday April 15 — would be of great advantage. Whitsunday, of course, would come correspondingly later. Take the present year, 1912; Easter Sunday fell on April 7. Next year Easter Sunday falls on March 23, a difference of fourteen days. Whitsunday fell this year on May 26; next year, it will fall on

May 11. Obviously, the later Easter day falls the better it will be for the general public. The days are longer, the weather is usually more favorable than in March. The comparison of revenue and expenditure for the current year, compared with the corresponding week for the previous year, is not interfered with. The receipts, subject to weather — and, may I say, strikes — are usually better in April than in March. Whitsunday will also be correspondingly later, as I have already said, with similar advantages.

The religious aspect of the question has, of course, to be faced. This, however, ought not to stand in the way of the adoption of some measure of calendar reform, whether in regard to the months or the days, or by fixing the date for Easter. It was in the sixteenth century — if I remember right, in 1582 — when England finally accepted — and I think she did so largely from a commercial point of view — the Gregorian calendar as it now exists. The question had been more or less under consideration for about two hundred years and many difficulties had to be gotten over, and I think the Roman church called in astronomers to adjust the Julian calendar.

I was present at the Fourth International Congress held in London in June, 1910, when an important resolution was passed in favor of calendar reform, which I am pleased to say I supported. Switzerland was asked to take some initiative after that resolution. I am not quite sure how far Switzerland has been able to do so; I am afraid she has not made much progress. It would, I consider, be extremely unfortunate if the Fifth International Congress of Chambers of Commerce, held in this hospitable city of Boston, should not in principle — I will not say in detail — confirm what was done in London two years ago, and I sincerely hope that a resolution to amend the existing calendar will be carried unanimously.

M. le Président: M. Aslett vient donc de vulgariser — je suis heureux qu'il l'ait fait — des choses qui ont été dites au congrès de Londres il y a deux ans. Je suis heureux de constater que les compagnies de chemin de fer aussi trouvent qu'il serait bon d'avoir la date de Pâques fixe et un seul calendrier.

Comme je l'ai dit en commençant, nous n'avons pas à discuter à nouveau la question, elle a été discutée à fond à Londres, et elle est actuellement aux mains du gouvernement Suisse pour provoquer une conférence politique internationale. Ce que nous désirons, c'est avoir ici la confirmation de la décision prise à Londres il y a deux ans, à savoir, qu'il est désirable d'avoir Pâques fixe, et qu'il est désirable d'avoir un calendrier uniforme. Voilà simplement ce que je demande.

Maintenant, au sujet de la question religieuse, je tiens à dire un mot. Il est clair que ce que nous demandons ne va à l'encontre d'aucune conviction religieuse; nous respectons toutes les convictions; mais nous estimons que toutes les religions ont intérêt à avoir et peuvent parfaitement s'arranger pour avoir un calendrier uniforme. Voilà ce que nous disons, nous, commerçants et gens d'affaires, en respectant d'ailleurs toutes les religions.

Je viens, au surplus, de recevoir d'un de nos collègues allemands un avis qui serait venu de l'ambassade allemande à Rome à la Chancellerie à Berlin, disant qu'il semblerait que la Curie romaine, aussi bien que l'église grecque catholique, ne seraient pas disposées à envisager la question.

Il semblerait donc — c'est un avis simplement qui vient d'Allemagne — qu'à Rome, comme en Grèce, on ne serait pas en ce moment disposé. Cela n'empêche en rien, messieurs, que nous confirmons notre vote. Nous ne voulons être désagréables à personne, nous respectons toutes les convictions, mais nous insistons pour dire, entre hommes d'affaires et commerçants, qu'il est désirable d'avoir Pâques fixe, et qu'il est désirable aussi d'avoir un calendrier uniforme.

Messieurs, si vous êtes de cet avis, je demande qu'on lève la main. (*Levé de mains générale.*)

Dans ces conditions, on peut donc considérer qu'à l'unanimité ce Cinquième Congrès de Boston confirme ce qui a été décidé au congrès de Londres.

Et nous passons à l'objet suivant à l'ordre du jour.

(Translation)

Mr. Aslett then has just popularized, and I am glad that he has done so, things which have been said at the London Congress two years ago. I am glad to observe also that railroad companies find that it would be good to have the date of Easter fixed and only one calendar.

As I said at the beginning, we have not to discuss the question anew, since it was discussed thoroughly in London and is at the present time in the hands of the Swiss Government, which will call for an international political conference. What we desire is to have here the confirmation of the decision taken in London two years ago, namely, that it is desirable to have a fixed Easter and also a uniform calendar. That is all I am asking.

Now, as regards the religious question I have a few words to say. It is obvious that what we are asking does not go against any religious conviction; we respect all convictions; but we hold that all religions are interested to have a uniform calendar and can so arrange it. This is what we think, we merchants and business men, while respecting at the same time all religions.

Furthermore I have just received from one of my German colleagues a notice which is supposed to have come from the German Embassy at Rome to the Chancellery at Berlin, saying that it would appear that the Roman Curia, as well as the Greek Orthodox Church, would not be disposed to consider the question.

It would then seem that this was a notice which came simply from Germany, and that Rome as well as Greece is not favorably disposed at this time. This does not prevent us, however, from confirming our vote. We do not wish to be disagreeable towards anybody, we respect all convictions, but we insist on saying, between business men and merchants, that it is desirable to have a fixed Easter and a uniform calendar.

Gentlemen, if you are of this opinion, I pray you to raise your hands. (*General raising of hands.*)

In these conditions we may consider that the Fifth Congress held in Boston unanimously confirms what has been decided at the London Congress.

We now pass to the following subject in the order of the day:

THE REGULATION OF INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITIONS

M. Louis Canon-Legrand, *President of the Congress*

Messieurs, cette question des expositions internationales est tout simplement aussi une question de notification. Ce fut à l'un de nos précédents congrès, à Milan, que l'on émit l'avis qu'il serait désirable de créer dans les différents pays des comités qui seraient chargés de décider la participation nationale aux expositions. Le Congrès soumet que ces comités devraient être liés entre eux, de façon à former un organisme international. Cette fois encore nous avons eu la satisfaction de constater qu'un gouvernement, le gouvernement Allemand, reprenait nos vœux et convoquait à Berlin, pour le mois d'octobre prochain, une conférence officielle internationale pour traiter de cette question.

Mon but, donc, a été simplement de vous dire que notre Congrès des Chambres de Commerce est arrivé, cette fois encore, à attirer l'attention des gouvernements, et notre résultat à nous est atteint, puisque nous devons nous reporter à ce qui se fera le mois prochain à Berlin.

Nous ne pouvons pas discuter à nouveau cette question des expositions, mais si quelqu'un désire ajouter quelque chose, comme documentation, je lui donnerai volontiers la parole.

Personne ne demande la parole. Je considère donc que vous avez tous eu notification de mon rapport et que vous êtes au courant de la question.

M. FILENE a la parole pour une communication venant de Chine au sujet du calendrier. Cela vous montrera comme cette question est d'un intérêt général.

(Translation)

Gentlemen, this question of international expositions is also simply a question of notification. It was at one of our recent congresses, at Milan, that the opinion was expressed of the desirability of creating in different countries committees which would decide on the national participation in expositions. The Congress submits that these committees ought to be joined together so as to form an international organism. Once again we had the satisfaction to observe that one government, the German, coincided with our wishes and convoked in Berlin for next October an official international conference to handle this question.

My purpose, therefore, has merely been to tell you that our Congress of Chambers of Commerce has again been successful in attracting the attention of governments, and our own object has succeeded, since we must now await the outcome of action at Berlin next month.

We cannot now discuss anew the question of expositions, but if any one wishes to add anything, for the sake of record, I will gladly allow him the floor.

As no one wishes the floor, I consider that you have all been notified of my report, and that you are posted on the subject.

Mr. FILENE has the floor to present a communication from China in regard to the calendar. This serves to demonstrate the general interest of this question.

Mr. Edward A. Filene: I have just received a letter from the Chinese delegates in which they say that the sun of progress, the sun of new times has come to China, and that they are in hearty accord with the vote that has just been taken by this body in regard to the question of the calendar. (Applause.)

M. le Président: Cela est donc particulièrement intéressant d'un bout à l'autre du monde, tous les pays s'intéressent à la question.

(Translation)

This is, therefore, of particular interest from one end of the world to the other; all nations are interested in the subject.

ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL COURT OF ARBITRAL JUSTICE FOR SUITS BETWEEN INDIVIDUALS AND FOREIGN STATES

M. le Président: Nous continuons notre ordre du jour et nous arrivons au deuxième sujet: "Création d'un Tribunal arbitral international pour litiges entre particuliers et États étrangers."

M. MAX APT a la parole pour nous résumer son rapport. Vous avez tous son rapport *in extenso* traduit dans les trois langues. M. Apt veut bien nous en donner un résumé aussi court que possible.

Un quart d'heure est accordé à M. Apt. Je dis un quart d'heure, parce que nous devons, évidemment, limiter le temps de chaque orateur, car autrement nos travaux n'avanceraient guère.

(Translation)

Continuing the order of the day, we arrive at the second topic: "Establishment of an International Court of Arbitral Justice for Suits between Individuals and Foreign States."

Mr. MAX APT has the floor to review his report. You all have his report in full, translated into the three languages. Mr. Apt will kindly give us a summary as briefly as possible.

A quarter of an hour is allowed for Mr. Apt, since we must, evidently, limit the time of each speaker, as otherwise our work will be too much delayed.

Dr. Max Apt, Syndic of "Die Ältesten der Kaufmannschaft von Berlin"

Gentlemen:

I must ask you to pardon me if I do not make my entire speech in English as I am afraid that my English pronounciation is not of the best; but you have received the report which has already given you a good idea of what I am going to say. I wish to explain to you that it is very difficult for a business man who has business relations with a foreign State to obtain his rights. Therefore I propose the foundation of an International Arbitration Court, established at The Hague, in which it shall be possible for business men having dealings with foreign States to have their differences settled.

(Continuing in French)

Messieurs, vous avez entre vos mains un rapport imprimé sur l'établissement d'un tribunal international pour les différends entre les États étrangers et les particuliers; il vous donne un clair aperçu du but que nous poursuivons.

Il est de toute nécessité que le commerçant, que l'industriel qui fait des affaires avec un État étranger, puisse, s'il a un différend avec lui, soumettre ce différend à un tribunal et obtenir justice, tout comme quand il a un différend avec un particulier de nationalité étrangère. Mais la réalité nous apprend que cette justice, il a toutes les peines du monde aujourd'hui à se la faire rendre dans ses différends avec un État étranger. Il est donc nécessaire que soit constitué un tribunal international devant lequel les commerçants ou industriels puissent porter leurs différends avec un État étranger. Et je vais démontrer que les arguments que, de maints côtés, on a fait valoir contre la réalisation de ce vœu si légitime, sont sans fondement.

(Translation)

Gentlemen, you have in your hands a printed report on the establishment of an international court for differences between foreign States and individuals; this will give you a clear idea of our intentions.

It is quite necessary that a merchant or a manufacturer who does business with a foreign State should in case of a difference with the latter be able to submit this difference to a court and obtain justice just as when he has a difference with an individual. But in reality, we find many difficulties in the way of obtaining such justice to-day. It is therefore necessary that an international court should be established before which merchants or manufacturers can carry their suits against foreign States, and I shall proceed to show that the arguments which have been advanced on many sides against the realization of this most reasonable desire are unfounded.

(Continuing in German)

Meine Herren!

Der Schiedsgerichtsgedanke hat auf dem Gebiete des Völkerrechts bereits seine Triumphe gefeiert. Die erste Haager Friedens-Konferenz vom Jahre 1899 hat neben der Kriegsrechts-Konvention eine Schiedsgerichts-Konvention geschaffen und zur Führung völkerrechtlicher Streitigkeiten zwischen einzelnen Staaten ist ein permanenter und jederzeit zugänglicher Schiedsgerichtshof mit dem Sitze im Haag errichtet worden. Freilich handelt es sich hier nicht um einen ständigen Weltgerichtshof, vielmehr wird durch Ernennung seitens der Staaten, von denen jeder Staat bis zu vier Richtern bestellen kann, eine Liste von Weltschiedsrichtern aufgestellt, aus der jederzeit ein Schiedsgericht durch die streitenden Parteien gebildet werden kann, um eine schwebende Streitigkeit zu erledigen. Bekanntlich hat Carnegie

ein Kapital von anderthalb Millionen Dollar zur Verfügung gestellt zur Errichtung eines Palastes für ein Weltschiedsgericht. Der Palast wird demnächst seiner Bestimmung übergeben werden. In den ersten 10 Jahren seit der ersten Haager Friedens-Konferenz sind dem ständigen Weltschiedsgericht sechs Streitigkeiten von großer Bedeutung übergeben worden.

Ich erwähne hier den Streit zwischen Deutschland, England und Italien einerseits und Venezuela andererseits wegen Forderungen an die Staatskasse von Venezuela aus dem Jahre 1903; an den Streit zwischen Deutschland, England und Frankreich einerseits und Japan andererseits wegen Auslegung von Vertragsbestimmungen bezüglich der Steuerpflicht der in Japan ansässigen Europäer aus dem Jahre 1902 und endlich an den berühmten Casablanca-Streitfall zwischen Deutschland und Frankreich aus dem Jahre 1908.

Die zweite Haager Friedens-Konferenz im Jahre 1907 hat das Werk der ersten Konferenz verbessert und ergänzt. Wenn somit auf dem Gebiete des öffentlichen internationalen Rechts große Fortschritte zu verzeichnen sind, kann man dasselbe nicht von dem Gebiete des internationalen Privatrechts behaupten, und mit Recht fordert Zorn in seinem kürzlich erschienenen Buche „Das deutsche Recht und die internationale Schiedsgerichtsbarkeit.“ daß die Frage der internationalen Schiedsgerichtsbarkeit einer befriedigenden Lösung zugeführt werde.

Zu denjenigen Fragen, welche in erster Reihe in Angriff genommen werden müssen, gehört die Frage der Schaffung eines internationalen Schiedsgerichts für Streitigkeiten zwischen Privatpersonen und ausländischen Staaten.

Eine Enquete, welche die Ältesten der Kaufmannschaft von Berlin in ihrem Wirtschaftsgebiete angestellt haben, hat ergeben, daß der jetzt bestehende mangelnde Rechtsschutz eine große Reihe von Firmen von Anfang an abhalte, mit ausländischen Staaten Geschäftsverbindungen einzugehen. Der mangelnde Rechtsschutz werde von den Schuldnerstaaten häufig dazu benutzt, unbegründete Bemängelungen zu erheben, nicht berechnete Abzüge vom Kaufpreis zu machen, die Zahlungsfristen ungebührlich auszudehnen.

Es wurde ausgeführt, wenn das jetzt bestehende Mißtrauen gegenüber ausländischen Staaten durch die Errichtung eines internationalen Schiedsgerichts geschwunden sei, viele Firmen eine große Reihe von Geschäften machen würden, die sie jetzt unterließen. Schon das bloße Bestehen eines solchen Schiedsgerichts würde dazu beitragen, daß die Staaten in ihren vermögensrechtlichen Beziehungen zu Privatpersonen kulanter würden, und daß sie namentlich pünktlicher und schneller zahlten. Das Bedürfnis nach einer gesetzlichen Regelung tritt umso dringender hervor, als unsere ganze wirtschaftliche Entwicklung dahin geht, als die Staaten gewerbliche und kommerzielle Unternehmungen in höherem Maße betreiben wie bisher und daß sie dadurch in mannigfache Beziehungen zu Privatpersonen treten. Wenn aber der Staat in den privatwirtschaftlichen Verkehr eintritt, so widerspricht es unserem Rechtsbewußtsein, daß er dann anders behandelt wird wie jede andere Privatperson, und daß in einem solchen Falle dem Privatmann kein direktes Klagerecht gegen den ausländischen Staat zustehen soll. Denn in Wirklichkeit ist eine Verfolgung privatrechtlicher Ansprüche gegen einen ausländischen Staat mit den größten Schwierigkeiten verknüpft. Wenn man den Gläubiger darauf verweist, daß er den fremden Staat vor den eigenen Gerichten im Ausland verklagen könne, so ist doch in Betracht zu ziehen, daß die rechtlichen Einrichtungen aller Staaten nicht so sind, daß mit Sicherheit auf ein zutreffendes Urteil über die meist sehr schwierigen Fragen des internationalen Privatrechts gerechnet werden kann. Dazu kommt, daß der Schuldnerstaat innerhalb seines Gebietes Gesetzgeber ist und hat es daher in der Hand, ob er vor seinen Gerichten Recht nehmen will. Man braucht keineswegs an eine bewußte Rechtsbeugung oder Justizverweigerung zu denken, um die in der Geschäftswelt bestehende Abneigung zu verstehen, die Gerichte des ausländischen Staates gegen diesen Staat selbst anzurufen.

Wenn man den Gläubiger ferner darauf hinweist, daß er den fremden Staat im Heimatstaat verklagen könne, so geht die herrschende Meinung in Theorie und Praxis dahin, daß kein Staat über den anderen zu Gericht sitzen darf, da das geltende Völkerrecht die Ausdehnung der inländischen Gerichtsgewalt auf fremde Staaten nicht gestatte. So hat beispielsweise das Reichsgericht es als anerkannten Grundsatz des Völkerrechts hingestellt, daß

ein ausländischer Staat auch aus rein privatrechtlichen Ansprüchen vor den inländischen Gerichten nicht belangt werden dürfe. Es wird dort ausgeführt, es stehe fest, daß die höheren Gerichte in Deutschland, Österreich, Frankreich, England und den Vereinigten Staaten von Nordamerika fast ständig zum Ausdruck gebracht haben, der ausländische Staat sei in der Regel auch bei privatrechtlichen Ansprüchen der Gerichtsbarkeit der Gerichte eines anderen Staates nicht unterworfen.

Man kann den Gläubiger auch nicht auf die in Nr. 2 des Reichsgesetzblattes von 1910 veröffentlichte Haager Konvention über die „*Dettes contractuelles*“ vom 18. Oktober 1907 verweisen. Diese Haager Konvention trägt in der im Reichsgesetzblatt veröffentlichten deutschen Übersetzung die Überschrift: „Abkommen, betreffend die Beschränkung der Anwendung von Gewalt bei der Eintreibung von Vertragsschulden“ und lautet in den maßgebenden Artikeln:

„Art. 1. Die Vertragsmächte sind übereingekommen, bei der Eintreibung von Vertragsschulden, die bei der Regierung eines Landes von der Regierung eines anderen Landes für deren Angehörige eingefordert werden, nicht zur Waffengewalt zu schreiten.“

Diese Bestimmung findet keine Anwendung, wenn der Schuldnerstaat ein Anerbieten schiedsgerichtlicher Erledigung ablehnt oder unbeantwortet läßt oder im Falle der Annahme den Abschluß des Schiedsvertrags vereitelt oder nach dem Schiedsvertrage dem Schiedssprüche nicht nachkommt.

„Art. 2. Man ist ferner übereingekommen, daß die in Absatz 2 des vorstehenden Artikels erwähnte Schiedssprechung dem in Titel IV Kapitel 3 des Haager Abkommens zur friedlichen Erledigung internationaler Streitfälle vorgesehenen Verfahren unterworfen sein soll. In Ermangelung besonderer Abreden der Parteien entscheidet der Schiedsspruch über den Grund des Anspruchs, über die Höhe der Schuld, sowie über die Zeit und Art der Zahlung.“

Diese Haager Konvention über die „*Dettes contractuelles*“ kann im vorliegenden Falle nicht in Betracht kommen, denn sie ist lediglich auf die Einschränkung der völkerrechtlichen Selbsthilfe, also auf die Beseitigung eines Kriegsfalles gerichtet. Die Konvention will einzig und allein die Schuldnerstaaten vor Krieg wegen einer privatrechtlichen Streitigkeit schützen. Sie gewährt daher dem Privatgläubiger nicht nur keinerlei Rechte, sondern sie nimmt ihm sogar die Möglichkeit, daß der Heimatstaat seinetwegen den fremden Staat mit Krieg überzieht. Vor allem aber besteht für den Heimatstaat keine Pflicht zur Intervention, vielmehr ist es stets in das Ermessen des Staates gesetzt, ob er intervenieren will, und er wird in der Regel Gründe finden, aus denen er ablehnt, den diplomatischen Apparat in Bewegung zu setzen.

Dem Privatgläubiger steht also ein direktes Klagerecht nicht zu, er muß sich vielmehr an den eigenen Staat wenden, der, wenn es sich nicht um ganz exorbitante Fälle handelt, in denen nationale Fragen berührt werden, wie gesagt, Gründe finden wird, eine diplomatische Intervention abzulehnen.

Hiernach bleibt nur der Weg übrig, daß eine neutrale Schiedsgerichtsinstanz geschaffen wird durch Staatenvertretungen, die das Recht hat, über Fälle zu entscheiden, die von Angehörigen eines Vertragsstaates gegen einen Vertragsstaat erhoben werden. Die Durchführung dieser Idee wird gewiß keine leichte sein, denn der Souveränitätsbegriff ist bei einzelnen Staaten so stark entwickelt, daß sie die Bildung eines derartigen Schiedsgerichts als Einschränkung ihrer Souveränität ansehen werden. Allein dieser Gesichtspunkt wäre ein unrichtiger, denn wenn ein derartiges Schiedsgericht geschaffen wird, so wird es lediglich geschaffen aus dem freien Willen der Staaten und nicht durch die Unterwerfung unter eine höhere Gewalt. Es handelt sich auch nicht darum, daß ein einzelner Staat sich dieser neutralen Instanz unterwirft, sondern daß alle Kulturstaaten sich derselben unterwerfen. Auch soll in dieser neutralen Instanz nicht eine den Staaten übergeordnete Gerichtsbarkeit, sondern eine Jurisdiktion kraft gemeinsamen Rechts geschaffen werden. Und so viel ist feststehend, daß sich Staaten in den sie berührenden Streitigkeiten einem Schiedsgericht unterwerfen, ohne ihrer Würde und Souveränität etwas zu vergeben.

Der Einwand aber, daß, wenn eine derartige Institution eingeführt werde, der auswärtige Staat es vorziehen werde, lieber mit seinen eigenen Angehörigen Geschäfte abzuschließen und daß dadurch die weltwirtschaftlichen Beziehungen der einzelnen Völker Abbruch erleiden werden, kann nicht zutreffen, da man schon heute, wie die von den Ältesten der Kaufmannschaft von Berlin veranstaltete Enquete ergeben hat, gerade deshalb, weil ein Rechtsweg gegen den ausländischen Staat nicht offensteht, vielfach mit einem Angehörigen des betreffenden Staates als Strohmann kontrahiert, oder aber, daß man zwar mit dem Strohmann direkt abschließt, sich jedoch dann die Außenstände durch Privatleute garantieren läßt. Wenn aber ein Staat diesem Abkommen nicht beitreten sollte, so wäre er lediglich auf seine eigenen Staatsangehörigen angewiesen und würde dann voraussichtlich nicht diejenigen Bedürfnisse für Kriegszwecke beschaffen können, für die es auf die Angehörigen anderer Staaten angewiesen ist.

Die Idee der Errichtung eines solchen internationalen Schiedsgerichts hat, seit die Ältesten der Kaufmannschaft von Berlin sich zur Befürwortung dieser Frage entschlossen haben, weitgehende Zustimmung gefunden. Der Mitteleuropäische Wirtschaftsverein und der Handelsvertragsverein haben sich dafür ausgesprochen. Der Ausschuß des Deutschen Handelstages hat in seiner diesjährigen Kölner Tagung einstimmig einen gleichen Beschluß gefaßt. Der Hansabund hat die Forderung in seine Richtlinien aufgenommen. Die Interparlamentarische Union wird sich dem Vernehmen nach in ihrer Tagung im September 1912 in Genf mit der Frage beschäftigen. Der Verband der internationalen Verständigung wird auf seiner Heidelberger Tagung die Errichtung des Schiedsgerichts behandeln. Die „American Association of Commerce and Trade“ in Berlin hat in ihrem Berichte vom 15. August 1911 die Anregung gegeben, die Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika möchten diese wichtige Angelegenheit jetzt ihrerseits energisch in die Hand nehmen. Der in Boston im September dieses Jahres stattfindende Internationale Handelskammer-Kongreß hat die Frage auf seine Tagesordnung gesetzt. In Amerika hat sich auf der diesjährigen amerikanischen Schiedsgerichts-Konferenz, die von etwa vierhundert Personen besucht war, Professor Wheeler für das Schiedsgericht ausgesprochen.

In gleicher Weise, wie die Vertreter von Handel und Industrie die Schaffung eines internationalen Schiedsgerichtshofes wünschen, haben sich auch die Vertreter der Wissenschaft für eine solche Idee ausgesprochen, wie Freund, Meili, Nippold, Zorn, Fischer, v. Maritz-Wehberg und Mendelssohn-Bartholdy. Auch hat der Marburger Professor Walther Schücking jetzt darauf hingewiesen, die Schaffung einer Instanz für Privatrechtsansprüche gegen fremde Staaten werde zu den organisatorischen Aufgaben der dritten Haager Konferenz gehören.

Hiernach bitte ich, daß der Kongress beschließen möge, daß ein internationales Schiedsgericht errichtet werde, welches berufen ist, vermögensrechtliche Streitigkeiten zwischen ausländischen Staaten und Privatpersonen zu entscheiden.

Translation)

Gentlemen:

The idea of a tribunal of arbitration has already gained a victory in the domain of international law. The First Hague Conference, in the year 1899, established a convention in respect to international war and likewise for international arbitration and a permanent and always available court of arbitration for causes of international law between individual States has been permanently established in The Hague. As a matter of fact this is not a permanent international court, but rather a list of international judges of arbitration of which each nation may appoint up to four judges from which a court of arbitration can be drawn by the parties to the dispute to settle some question which may arise. As is well known, Carnegie has given the sum of one million and a half dollars to erect a palace for an international court of arbitration and this will shortly be turned over for this purpose. In the first ten years since the First Hague Peace Conference six disputes of great importance have been submitted to this court.

I refer here to the dispute between Germany, England and Italy on one side and Venezuela on the other, arising out of demands on the treasury of Venezuela in the year 1903; the dispute between Germany, England and France on one side and Japan on the other side in 1902, in regard to the failure to carry out agreements relating to the taxation of Europeans residing in Japan; and finally the celebrated Casablanca dispute between Germany and France in 1908.

The Second Hague Peace Conference in the year 1907 has improved and completed the work of the first conference. While thus great progress may be recorded in the domain of the international law of nations the same cannot be said in respect of international personal legal rights, and Zorn properly asks in his recently published book, "*Das deutsche Recht und die internationale Schiedsgerichtsbarkeit*" (German Law and International Arbitration) for a satisfactory solution of the question of international arbitration.

To those questions which must be taken up in the first place belongs the question of creating an international court of arbitration for suits between individuals and foreign States.

An investigation made by "*Die Ältesten der Kaufmannschaft von Berlin*" in its territory has shown that the existing lack of legal protection has withheld a number of firms from entering on business relations with foreign States. The defective legal protection is often utilized by debtor States to advance unfounded claims, to make unfair deductions from the purchase price and to extend unreasonably the term for payment.

It was contended that if the mistrust which now exists towards foreign States were removed by means of an international court of arbitration, many firms would do a great deal of business which they now do not undertake. The mere existence of such a court would contribute towards rendering the States more liberal in their relationships to private persons as regards the property laws of said States, and that they would pay more promptly. The need of legal regulation becomes more imperative as the States are to a greater extent than before entering upon mechanical and commercial undertakings, thus coming into closer contact with private persons. But if the State takes up negotiations on a private basis it goes against our feeling of justice that the State should be treated otherwise than any other private person would be, and that in such a case no direct right of complaint should be allowed to the private person against a foreign State. For, in reality, the pursuance of private legal claims against a foreign State can only be done with the greatest difficulty. If one points out to the creditor that he can prosecute the foreign State in its own courts in a foreign country one must take into consideration that the legal arrangements of all States are not so that one can reckon with surety on an accurate judgment on the generally very difficult question of international private rights. Added to which the indebted State in the range of its own territory is its own lawgiver and therefore looks for its rights to its own courts. One is in no wise obliged to consider a conscious yielding to the law or refusal of justice, in order to understand the aversion existing in the business world to calling on the courts of a foreign State against that very State.

If one further points out to the creditor that he can prosecute the foreign State in the home State, the reigning opinion in theory and practice goes to show that no State can try another one, as the existing national law does not allow the interior legal power to extend to foreign States. For example, the Supreme Court of the Empire has made it an acknowledged fundamental clause of the national law, that a foreign State cannot be called before the courts of the interior for a purely private reason. It is there carried out and is firmly established, that the higher courts in Germany, Austria, France, England and the United States of North America have made it almost a settled point that the foreign States, as a rule, also in claims of a private nature, cannot come under the jurisdiction of the courts of another State.

Neither can one refer the debtor to No. 2 of the pamphlet on "National Law of 1910" of The Hague Convention on the "Dettes contractuelles" of the 18th of October, 1907. This Hague Convention in the German translation is called "Regulations regarding the Limitation of the Use of Force in collecting Contract-Debts" and is given in the articles referring thereto as follows:

"Art. 1. The contracting powers have agreed not to have recourse to warfare to enforce the payment of contract-debts which the government of one country exacts from the government of another country for its subjects."

This rule is not carried out if the indebted State refuses the offer of a settlement by a court of arbitration or if it leaves the offer unanswered, or in case of an acceptance, hinders the settlement of the court of arbitration, or after the arbitration contract has been drawn up does not carry out the decision therein specified.

"Art. 2. It has further been agreed upon that the decision mentioned in paragraph 2 of the above article should be subject to the process described in Chapter 3, Title 4, of The Hague Convention for a peaceful arrangement of international disputes. Failing a particular agreement of the parties, the arbitration decides on the reason of the claim, on the extent of the debt, or the amount of the debt as well as on the time and place of payment."

This Hague Convention on the "Dettes contractuelles" cannot be taken into consideration in the case on hand, for it is principally directed to the limiting of national self-help, therefore to the removing of a reason for war. The convention wishes only to protect the indebted States from war on account of private legal disputes. It therefore gives the private creditor not only no rights but it even deprives him of the possibility that his home State might declare war against the foreign State on his account. But above all no obligation exists for the home State to interfere; on the contrary it is left to the judgment of the State, if it wishes to intervene, and it generally finds reasons to refuse to put the diplomatic apparatus into motion.

The private creditor therefore has no right to a direct complaint. On the contrary, he must have recourse to his own State, which, unless it is a quite extraordinary case, in which national questions come into play, will find reasons for refusing a diplomatic intervention.

Accordingly, there is only one way left, that of creating a neutral court of arbitration by State representation, which would have the right of deciding in cases which are brought by subjects of a contract State against another contract State. The realization of this idea will certainly not be easy, for the feeling of sovereignty is so strongly developed in single States that each would look on the formation of such an arbitrary court as an encroachment on its sovereignty. Nevertheless, this view would be incorrect, for if such a court of arbitration were created it would be so essentially by the free will of the States and not through coercion by a higher power. The question also is not that of a single State giving way to this neutral court, but that all civilized States should subject themselves to it. Also in this neutral court there should not be called into existence a legal body having power over the States, but a jurisdiction founded on mutual rights. One thing is certain, that States which subject themselves to a court of arbitration in disputes affecting themselves can do so without losing any of their dignity or sovereignty.

The objection, however, that if such an institution were established the foreign States would prefer rather to do business with its own subjects and that therefore the universal business relationship of the individual nations would be injured, cannot stand, as one already to-day often contracts in the person of a dummy with the subject of the State in question, there being no legal way open to act against the foreign State, all of which was shown by the investigation effected by "Die Ältesten der Kaufmannschaft von Berlin"; or it may happen that one can come to a direct termination with the

dummy, but has the guaranty for the outside affairs furnished by private parties. Should the State, however, not join in this agreement, it would be essentially dependent on its own State subjects and would probably not then be able to furnish those necessary materials for purposes of war, for which it is dependent on the subjects of other States.

The idea of forming an international court of arbitration of this kind, has found widespread favor, since "Die Ältesten der Kaufmannschaft von Berlin" decided to further this question. "Der Mitteleuropäische Wirtschaftsverein" and the "Handelsvertragsverein" have expressed themselves in favor of it. The delegates of "Der Deutsche Handelstag" adopted a unanimous resolution of similar tenor at its session of this year at Cologne. The "Hansabund" has also voiced the demand. The Interparliamentary Union will occupy itself with the question at its session in September, 1912, at Geneva. The League for International Understanding will take up the question of creating a court of arbitration at its meeting in Heidelberg. The American Association of Commerce and Trade in Berlin in its report of August 15, 1911, has introduced the question of having the United States of America on its part take up this important matter energetically. The International Congress of Chambers of Commerce which will take place in Boston in September has placed the question on its order of the day. In America at the conference on arbitration held this year, which was attended by about four hundred persons, Professor Wheeler spoke in favor of the court of arbitration.

In the same manner, as the representatives of commerce and industry desire the creation of an international court of arbitration, the representatives of science have expressed their approval of this principle, as Freund, Meili, Nippold, Zorn, Fischer, v. Maritz-Wehberg and Mendelssohn-Bartholdy. Professor Walther Schücking, of Marburg, has drawn attention to the fact that the formation of a court for private suits against foreign States belongs to the organizing tasks of the Third Hague Conference.

I therefore request that the Congress should decide that an international court of arbitration should be established for the purpose of deciding disputes affecting property between foreign States and private individuals.

(Continuing in English)

Gentlemen, I have explained all the arguments in favor of the establishment of the international arbitration court. When that court is in operation, it will be a good foundation for the development of export trade and industry. But the chambers of commerce are not able to put it into existence. So much the more is it necessary that the States take the initiative. And therefore I beg you, that in your States you may influence your governments. And I hope that the American Government will be the first of the States to invite the other States to form that international court. The realization of that idea would not only mean immense progress in the development of commerce and industry, but would also fill a great void in the path of justice and civilization.

(Continuing in French)

Messieurs, je crois que les explications que j'ai eu l'honneur de vous présenter, ont largement suffi à démontrer que l'institution d'un tribunal international d'arbitrage, à La Haye, ne peut que contribuer au développement du commerce et de l'industrie d'exportation.

Mais ce tribunal international ne peut être créé que si les États prennent, vis-à-vis les uns des autres, l'engagement, scellé par une convention réciproque, de le constituer. Il faut que les chambres de commerce de chaque État présentent à leur gouvernement respectif le vœu pressant que soit convoquée une conférence des États, pour le règlement de cette question si importante pour le commerce mondial.

À vous, messieurs, j'adresse l'instance prière de lutter de toutes vos forces, dans vos États respectifs, pour la réalisation de cette idée.

En conséquence, je vous prie, messieurs, de vouloir bien émettre le vœu que soit constitué un tribunal international pour les différends entre les particuliers et les États étrangers, qui

représenterait un immense progrès, non seulement dans le développement du commerce et de l'industrie, mais aussi remplirait une grande lacune dans la recherche de la justice et de la civilisation. (*Applaudissements.*)

(*Translation*)

Gentlemen, I believe that the arguments which I have just had the honor of presenting to you have sufficed to demonstrate that the establishment of an international court of arbitration at The Hague cannot fail to contribute to the development of commerce and export business.

But this international court cannot be created unless the governments will mutually agree, and be bound by a reciprocal convention to establish it. The chambers of commerce in each country should present to their respective governments the urgent wish for the convocation of a conference of the nations for the settlement of this question which is so important to the commerce of the world.

To you, gentlemen, I address the sincere desire that you use all your efforts, in your respective countries, for the realization of this idea.

Accordingly, gentlemen, I beg you to express a wish for the establishment of an international court for suits between individuals and foreign States, which would not only mean a tremendous advance in the development of commerce and industry but would also fill a great void which now exists in the path of justice and civilization. (*Applause.*)

Mr. R. S. Fraser, Member of Council of London Chamber of Commerce

Mr. President and Gentlemen:

In seconding the resolution moved by Dr. Apt favoring the establishment of an International Court of Arbitration for the adjustment of differences between individuals and States, I would wish to take the opportunity of felicitating Dr. Apt on the excellent, exhaustive, and may I say illuminating paper which he has written on the subject and which I fancy will take a very high place in the literature of arbitral justice when that literature becomes history. (*Applause.*)

It is a very great pleasure to one who has taken a considerable part in the establishment of international standardized courts of arbitration, commercial arbitration, to speak on this subject and to support Dr. Apt. In the past it may be said that arbitration has not made great advance. Mr. President, the astonishing thing is that in the absence of any fixed practice or settled procedure, arbitration has advanced at all; and it is only consequent on the good sense of good men that arbitration is now in the forefront of practical politics. (*Applause.*)

Since this Congress met in London great strides have been made in the direction of placing commercial arbitration on a direct working basis.

I have the honor to be a member of the International Law Association which met in London two years since and in Paris this last Whitsuntide and on both occasions this important subject was dealt with and pressed forward. Then again consequent upon the agitation for this movement in the British Board of Trade, a very active inquiry is proceeding with a view to concerted steps for establishing standardized courts in all parts of the world, the awards of which will be enforceable wherever compliance therewith is required.

Sir, it is not only in Great Britain that this great movement is taking root. Our good friends in Germany, in one of the most carefully prepared treatises that has ever been written, pronounced by the Economical Council of Berlin, have submitted to the London Chamber of Commerce a proposal for establishing a commercial court of arbitration for dealing with differences between British merchants and German merchants. (*Applause.*)

Sir, when once we establish a court of arbitration commanding and deserving public confidence, whose judgments will command the respect of all, we shall indeed have established the bridge over which other movements will subsequently follow. Not only will the great claim which my friend advances be conceded of being able to establish a claim against the State,

but that still greater question of international peace will be most materially advanced. (*Applause.*) And for this reason: if you educate men in the study and practice of arbitration in their own affairs, they will hesitate a long time before acting otherwise in community proceedings at the terrible cost to life and property.

I do not wish to intrench on the question of imperial arbitration. I leave that to others. I confine myself to the desire for establishing a strong court of commercial arbitration to which you and I and every one having a difference can have recourse.

Let me say one thing in conclusion: commerce is the subject of no State and it is the sovereign of all. And I feel that justice is a matter of right and not merely of privilege.

In the past it has been a matter for rulers to decree whether they would open their courts during three of the most important months of the year. In arbitration I hope we will have forever put a stop to that abuse.

Well, sir, it may be some years before you will secure the court of arbitration which Dr. Apt and myself have advocated. In the meanwhile you have large power in your own hands, power not only to secure the unification of law but also to provide the means for speedily adjusting your difficulties. I refer to the need for revising the commercial contracts which you are in the habit of entering into. Many of you have used obsolete forms only to be thrown into the waste basket. May I suggest to you that when you return to your home you should carefully look at the provisions of these forms of contract and if, as I surmise, you see occasion to modify them you will at least do so to your own advantage.

I have very great pleasure in seconding the resolution. (*Applause.*)

Dr. Louis Varjassy, *Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Arad, Hungary*

Messieurs:

Il y a deux sortes de questions dont nos congrès doivent s'occuper. L'une est consacrée aux exigences du moment et aboutit à des propositions qui peuvent se réaliser immédiatement. L'autre est non moins pratique, mais se heurte pour le moment à des objections, des préjugés, des jalousies nationales, et il faut de grands efforts pour arriver, malgré ces difficultés presque insurmontables. Je suis forcé de constater avec un profond regret que la très importante question qui nous occupe en ce moment, de remplacer les possibilités de l'arbitraire par les principes de la justice, de l'impartialité et du droit, n'est pas encore réalisable.

La question d'un tribunal arbitral international pour litiges entre particuliers et États étrangers a déjà été discutée à plusieurs reprises, et elle a eu pour elle et contre elle de grands partisans. C'est surtout en Allemagne qu'elle a été étudiée d'une façon très approfondie et l'assemblée générale du "Mitteleuropäischen Wirtschaftsverein in Deutschland," qui a eu lieu le 14 octobre 1911 à Munich, a passé en revue tous les arguments et toutes les objections possibles. Malgré les sympathies incontestables qu'elle a soulevées chez ses membres, elle ne pouvait aboutir à un résultat pratique. À mentionner encore le cas très impressionnant de l'Institut du Droit International qui, dans son congrès tenu à Hambourg en 1891, s'est occupé de ce sujet et a rejeté l'idée de la création d'un tribunal arbitral international, étant d'avis que ces sortes de litiges doivent être jugés par les tribunaux réguliers.

Étant donc donnée cette grande divergence des opinions compétentes d'une part et l'indéniable intérêt du commerce et de l'industrie d'autre part, il n'est pas facile de trouver une solution tout à fait satisfaisante. Avant d'arriver à une conclusion, je me permettrai d'examiner succinctement quelques objections et quelques détails importants.

La première objection qu'on soulève imperturbablement est celle de la restriction de la souveraineté des États. C'est l'objection la plus habile, à une époque où l'augmentation des rapports internationaux nous devrait obliger de restreindre les aspirations particulières en faveur de toute l'humanité; et sans cela, il ne s'agit pas dans le cas présent d'une restriction déshonorante, imposée par des États étrangers, mais tout simplement d'une restriction volontaire.

En ce qui concerne la seconde objection, celle qui vise la convention des trente-quatre

États sur les dettes contractuelles et d'après laquelle toute convention nouvelle en faveur des créanciers étrangers serait superflue, puisqu'en cas de besoin ils peuvent se servir d'un tribunal international, je suis complètement d'accord avec Monsieur le rapporteur. Il manque d'abord à cette convention le caractère d'obligation, en outre elle ne donne pas aux créanciers le droit à l'action directe ne pouvant agir que par l'intermédiaire de leurs gouvernements. Il n'en est pas moins vrai que la susdite convention a été un grand progrès dans ce domaine, et pour le compléter, il ne faut qu'ériger le tribunal arbitral international dont nous nous occupons en ce moment.

La troisième objection qui était celle de l'Institut de Droit International consiste dans ce qu'on n'a pas besoin de recourir dans les cas mentionnés à un tribunal spécial, puisque les tribunaux nationaux sont en état d'offrir les mêmes garanties. L'indépendance des juges envers les gouvernements est tellement assurée à notre époque dans tous les pays civilisés et leur impartialité, leurs hautes idées sur le droit et la justice sont estimés à un degré, que les créanciers étrangers n'ont aucune raison de les mettre en doute. En outre, la création d'une cour arbitrale internationale serait l'expression tacite d'une méfiance regrettable envers les tribunaux nationaux. Ces objections ne sont pas très concluantes. En reconnaissant sans réserve la haute valeur morale des jugements nationaux, il n'en est pas moins vrai qu'il existe déjà des jugements différents, même opposés, rendus dans des cas analogues suivant les intérêts des pays en question. Et l'on n'a pas le droit de reprocher aux créanciers étrangers d'avoir plus de confiance dans des juges qui ne sont pas influencés par des préjugés, des sentiments patriotiques et un milieu trop tentant.

Et maintenant, j'arrive au point saillant. C'est l'objection que les sentences d'un tribunal arbitral international n'ont pas de sanction, elles ne sont pas exécutoires et, par conséquent, elles n'auraient aucune valeur pratique pour des commerçants et des industriels. Dans le rapport des "Ältesten der Kaufmannschaft von Berlin," cette difficulté est éliminée par l'espoir que les États se soumettront volontairement aux sentences du tribunal international. C'est bien possible et tout à fait sûr, en ce qui concerne les pays moins puissants, mais la possibilité d'une résistance fatale n'est pas et, hélas! ne peut pas être exclue. Je n'ai pas l'intention de dissimuler ce côté faible du tribunal à créer malgré toutes mes sympathies pour lui. Mais les jugements des tribunaux nationaux peuvent-ils offrir plus de garantie? Si c'est le tribunal du propre pays, l'on se trouve en face des mêmes difficultés en ce qui concerne l'exécution; et si c'est le tribunal du pays débiteur, c'est l'impartialité qui est en péril.

Pour terminer mon discours, je ne veux que mettre en relief les intérêts des pays débiteurs. Je le peux avec autant plus de droit parce que j'appartiens moi-même à un pays débiteur, mais à un pays débiteur honnête qui veut agir conformément à ses devoirs et qui n'a aucune objection contre l'idée d'un tribunal impartial, malgré qu'il a déjà perdu une partie de son territoire dans les Carpathes, en conséquence d'un jugement arbitral international. Nous comprenons très bien que la création d'un tribunal neutre peut avoir de fâcheuses conséquences pour certaines aspirations illégitimes, mais nous comprenons aussi bien que les pays débiteurs peuvent en tirer des avantages considérables en obtenant des conditions moins onéreuses.

Messieurs, si j'ai commencé mes paroles par des allusions pessimistes malgré mes conclusions, c'était parce que je sais qu'un tel progrès vers la justice et vers la victoire du droit aura à lutter contre tous les préjugés et toutes les jalousies d'un faux patriotisme. Et je savais en outre que ce n'est pas seulement l'idée d'un tribunal international qu'il faut rendre sympathique aux différents pays; il peut y avoir de sérieuses divergences quant aux détails de la question. Notre Congrès en tant que représentant du commerce et de l'industrie et comme avant-garde des progrès internationaux, n'a qu'à appuyer très chaleureusement la proposition du rapport auquel je m'attache au nom de toutes les chambres de commerce hongroises.

(Translation)

Gentlemen:

There are two questions with which our congresses must busy themselves. One is devoted to the actual exigencies and may be reduced to propositions which could be imme-

diately realized. The other is not less practical, but finds at present some objections, prejudices and national jealousies; and great efforts are needed to succeed against these almost unsurmountable difficulties. I am compelled to acknowledge with profound regret that the very important question before us at present, namely, to replace the possibilities of the arbitrary by principles of justice, impartiality and right, is not yet realizable.

The question of an international tribunal for arbitration of suits between citizens and foreign States has already been discussed many times before and has had great partisans for and against. In Germany especially it has been studied in a very thorough way and the general council of "Der Mitteleuropäische Wirtschaftsverein in Deutschland," which took place October 14, 1911, at Munich, has considered all the arguments and all the objections. Notwithstanding the unquestionable sympathies of its members, it could not reach a practical result. I would mention also the very impressive case of the International Institute of Law, which in the congress held at Hamburg in 1891 considered the subject and rejected the idea of the creation of an International tribunal of arbitration, believing that this sort of suits should be looked after by the regular courts of justice.

In the presence then of this great divergence of competent opinions on the one hand and the undeniable interests of commerce and industry on the other hand, it is not easy to find a solution entirely satisfactory. Before arriving at a conclusion I will take the liberty to examine briefly some of the objections and important details.

The first objection brought forth is that of the restriction of the sovereignty of the State. That is the cleverest objection, just when the increase of international relations should oblige us to restrict private aspirations in favor of the whole of mankind; and without this it is not a question in the present case of a dishonoring restriction, imposed by foreign States, but simply a voluntary restriction.

As regards the second objection, that which refers to the convention of the thirty-four States on contract debts and according to which any new convention in favor of foreign creditors would be superfluous, since when necessity arises they can use an international tribunal, I am entirely in accord with the Reporter. This convention, at the outset, lacks the character of obligation, and does not give the creditors the right to an immediate suit, since they can only act through the intervention of their governments. It is none the less true that the above-mentioned convention has indicated great progress in this domain, and in order to complete it, it is only necessary to establish the international tribunal of arbitration with which we are occupying ourselves at present.

The third objection, which was that of the International Institute of Law, consists in the fact that no need exists for having recourse in the cases mentioned to a special tribunal, since the national tribunals are in a position to offer the same guaranty; that the independence of the judges towards the governments is so well assured in our time in all civilized countries, and their impartiality, their high ideals of right and justice, are held in such esteem, that foreign creditors have no reason whatever to doubt them; that the creation of an international court of arbitration would be the silent expression of a regrettable mistrust of the national courts. These objections are not very conclusive. While recognizing fully the high moral value or worth of the national verdicts, it is none the less true that there exist already verdicts that differ, that are even contrary, rendered in similar cases according to the interest of the countries that are involved; and no one has the right to reproach foreign creditors for having more confidence in judges who are not influenced by prejudices, patriotic sentiments and an environment too full of temptation.

And now, I come to the main point, the objection that the decrees of an international court of arbitration are without sanction, that they are not executory, and consequently have no practical value for men in commerce and industry. In the report of "Die Ältesten der Kaufmannschaft von Berlin," this difficulty is eliminated by the hope that the governments will submit willingly to the sentences of an international

tribunal. It is quite possible and perfectly sure, as far as it concerns less powerful countries, but the possibility of a fatal resistance is not and cannot, alas! be precluded. I have no intention to conceal this weak side of a tribunal to be created, in spite of all my sympathy. But are the verdicts of national courts able to offer better guaranty? If it is the tribunal of one's own country, the same difficulties are experienced in regard to execution; and if it is the tribunal of the debtor's country, impartiality is in peril.

In closing I only wish to put in a conspicuous light the interest of the debtor countries. I can do so with so much more right seeing that I myself belong to such a country, but an honest debtor country, which wishes to act conformably to its duties and has no objection to the idea of any impartial tribunal, notwithstanding that it has lost a part of its territory in the Carpathians as a result of an international verdict of arbitration. We understand very well that the creation of a neutral tribunal may have bad consequences for certain illegitimate aspirations, but we understand as well that the debtor countries can gain considerable advantages by obtaining less onerous conditions.

Gentlemen, if I have begun my speech by pessimistic utterances in spite of my conclusions, it is because I know that in such progress towards justice and towards the victory of right we shall have to struggle against all the prejudices and all the jealousies of a false patriotism. And I know besides that we must first have the different countries sympathetic to the idea of an international court; that the serious divergences arising in connection with the details of the subject must be worked out afterwards. Our Congress, in so far as it represents commerce and industry and is the vanguard of all international progress, must warmly second the proposition reported, which I support in the name of all the Hungarian Chambers of Commerce.

M. Eugène Allard, *President of the Belgian Chamber of Commerce of Paris*

Messieurs:

La création d'un tribunal arbitral international pour les litiges entre particuliers et États étrangers préoccupe à juste titre, depuis plusieurs années, la plupart des États civilisés. C'est depuis notre dernier congrès de Londres que la question a été posée d'une manière précise par l'honorable M. La Lanne, le délégué des États-Unis d'Amérique.

Il nous a émis des considérations tellement évidentes que dès ce moment, notre opinion était faite. Le commerce mondial réclamait l'établissement d'un tribunal international d'arbitrage.

M. le rapporteur nous a émis de nouvelles considérations qui nous ont satisfaits en tous points; seulement, je trouve que devant l'unanimité de nos opinions, l'unanimité de nos sentiments, le rapporteur propose un ordre du jour qui me semble prolonger beaucoup trop longtemps la solution du problème que le commerce réclame avec tant d'impatience. Il vous dit: Renvoyons à nos chambres de commerce la question pour proposer à nos gouvernements respectifs le désir du commerce de chaque nation de voir s'établir un tribunal arbitral.

Sous ce rapport, je crois que la Chambre de commerce de Paris, par l'organe de son dévoué président, M. Charles Legrand, membre du comité permanent, a émis le vœu qui devra rallier tous nos suffrages, et qui pourra faire avancer la solution du problème avec une rapidité inespérée.

J'ai le bonheur de pouvoir vous exposer le vœu de la Chambre de commerce de Paris, au nom de M. Charles Legrand, que son état de santé a malheureusement empêché d'être parmi nous. Le vœu de la Chambre de commerce de Paris est formulé d'une manière très précise. Il expose: "Qu'une section économique internationale soit adjointe à la cour de La Haye, et chargée spécialement d'arbitrer souverainement, en équité, tous les différends internationaux d'ordre commercial et industriel, soit des États entre eux, soit des industriels avec les États étrangers.

"Que les membres de ce tribunal arbitral international soient choisis parmi les membres des chambres de commerce et des associations commerciales et industrielles."

Permettez-moi de lire la partie du rapport de M. Charles Legrand qui justifie la création de cette section commerciale internationale, devant laquelle seraient portés les différends d'ordre économique et non juridique, qui nous apparaîtrait comme justifiée par la diversité des législations commerciales, par l'importance de plus en plus mondiale des choses de l'industrie et du commerce et leur développement sur tous les points du globe, par ce mouvement considérable du crédit qui existe entre tous les États, qui rend de plus en plus nécessaire la défense des intérêts des particuliers souscripteurs d'emprunts étrangers, et enfin, par cette tendance de plus en plus accentuée d'un grand nombre d'États à créer, diriger et exploiter des entreprises de commerce et d'industrie.

"Nous ne méconnaissons pas le rôle important que les membres de ce nouveau tribunal arbitral seraient appelés à jouer, d'autant plus que, dans notre pensée, ils auraient pour mission d'apprécier en fait et non pas de juger en droit, d'interpréter les conventions faites réciproquement et de bonne foi, les contrats bi-latéraux, et d'arbitrer en équité tous les engagements non observés et leurs conséquences.

"Leur sentence serait exécutoire sans opposition, recours, ni appel.

"Pour s'acquitter d'une telle mission, il y aurait lieu de faire appel à la compétence d'industriels et de commerçants, notables et expérimentés, choisis parmi les membres des chambres de commerce dignes de collaborer à une œuvre de précipitation et d'entente universelle à côté des hommes éminents en droit international, jurisconsultes de la plus haute valeur, qui constituent, à l'heure actuelle, la cour internationale d'arbitrage de La Haye.

"Vous apprécierez, messieurs, s'il n'appartient pas aux chambres de commerce du monde de revendiquer, au point de vue international, l'exercice de prérogatives d'arbitrage et de conciliation qui sont de leur essence même dans leur propre pays, en se renfermant dans le rôle économique qui leur est assigné par les lois, sans empiéter sur le terrain juridique.

"Vous montrerez ainsi, une fois de plus, la place primordiale que les commerçants et les industriels tiennent dans l'univers, et la part importante que leurs représentants attirés doivent prendre désormais dans les conseils de leurs gouvernements."

(Translation)

Gentlemen:

The creation of an international tribunal of arbitration for suits between individuals and foreign governments has for several years past with good reason commanded the serious attention of most civilized States. Since our last London Congress the questions have been proposed in a very precise manner by the Hon. Mr. La Lanne, delegate from the United States of America.

He has placed before us considerations so obvious, that from that moment our minds were made up. The world's commerce requires the establishment of an international court of arbitration.

The Reporter has shown us new considerations which have satisfied us fully; only I find that before our unanimous opinions, our unanimous sentiments, the Reporter proposes an order of the day which protracts to a large extent the solution of the problem which commerce requires with so much impatience. He tells you: Let us send to our chambers of commerce the question in order to propose to our respective governments the wish of the commerce of every nation to see the establishment of an arbitration court.

In this respect I believe that the Chamber of Commerce of Paris, through its devoted President, Mr. Charles Legrand, member of the Permanent Committee, has expressed a feeling with which we are all in hearty accord, and which will be of great assistance in the rapid solution of the problem.

I have the good fortune to be able to express the wish of the Paris Chamber of Commerce, in the name of Mr. Charles Legrand, whose state of health has unfor-

tunately prevented his being with us. The wish of the Paris Chamber of Commerce is expressed in a very precise manner, namely, "That an economic international section be associated with The Hague Court and entrusted especially to arbitrate, in sovereign manner, in equity all international differences of a commercial and industrial order, either of States between themselves, or of manufacturers with foreign States.

"That the members of this international tribunal of arbitration be chosen from among the members of the chambers of commerce and of the commercial and industrial associations."

Permit me to read to you the part of the report of Mr. Charles Legrand which justifies the creation of this international, commercial section, before which differences of economic and non-judicial order would be brought. It appears to us justified by the diversity of commercial legislation, by the importance, more and more world-wide, of industry and commerce and their development on all the points of the globe, by this extensive movement of credit which now exists between all countries, which renders all the more necessary the protection of the interests of individuals, subscribers to foreign loans, and lastly by the tendency more and more accentuated of a great many States, to create, direct and exploit commercial and industrial enterprises.

"We do not slight the important part the members of this new tribunal of arbitration would be called upon to play, and the more so, since, in our mind, their mission would be to appreciate in fact, not judge at law, to interpret the agreements made reciprocally and in good faith, the bi-lateral contracts, and to arbitrate in equity all the pledges not observed and their consequences.

"Their decision would be executory without opposition, recourse or appeal.

"To fulfil such a mission, it would be advisable to call upon competent manufacturers and merchants, well known and experienced, chosen from among the members of the chambers of commerce, found worthy to collaborate, working towards a universal *entente*, with men eminent in international law, jurists of the highest worth, such as now constitute the International Court of Arbitration of The Hague.

"You will appreciate, gentlemen, whether it does not rightly belong to the chambers of commerce of the world to ask, from the international point of view, the exercise of arbitration and conciliation, which is fundamental to them in their own countries, confining themselves to the economic rôle which is assigned to them by the laws, without encroaching on the legal ground.

"You will thus show once again the prominent part that merchants and manufacturers hold in the universe, and the important part that their appointed representatives must hereafter take in the counsels of their government."

M. le Président: Je n'ai plus d'inscrits pour la question qui est réellement l'ordre du jour: "Création d'un Tribunal arbitral international, pour litiges entre particuliers et États étrangers."

Nous sommes donc saisis des conclusions de M. Apt, qui dit qu'il est désirable de voir établir un organisme de l'espèce; et il ajoute qu'il serait peut-être opportun de demander aux États-Unis de prendre l'initiative de convoquer une conférence.

Nous n'avons pas la question à l'ordre du jour, mais je prends sous forme de motion les désirs que l'on pourrait émettre au sujet de voir l'arbitrage s'établir entre commerçants d'abord, peut-être plus loin après. J'ai, au sujet de ce désir, une demande de parole de la part de M. ROBERTO POZZI.

(Translation)

I have nobody else on the list on the question which is actually the order of the day: namely, "The Creation of an International Tribunal of Arbitration for Suits between Individuals and Foreign States."

We have before us, therefore, the conclusions of Mr. Apt, who says that it is

desirable to see the establishment of a tribunal of this kind, and adds that it would perhaps be opportune to ask the United States to take the initiative for the convoking of a conference.

While it is not on the order of the day, I take in the form of a motion wishes that could be expressed on the subject of arbitration, as meant to be established between merchants first, perhaps extended later. Along this line I have a request for the floor from Mr. ROBERTO POZZI.

M. Roberto Pozzi, *International Cotton Federation of Milan, Italy*

Mr. Pozzi made extended remarks in Italian, summarized later, and offered the following motion:

"La Fédération Internationale des Associations Patronales de Filateurs et Manufacturiers de Coton, en exprimant la plus vive approbation à la proposition des 'Ältesten der Kaufmannschaft von Berlin' à l'objet de la création d'un tribunal d'arbitrage pour les différends entre particuliers et États étrangers, recommande aux soins du comité exécutif des congrès l'étude de la question relative à l'unification des différents systèmes de droit en matière d'arbitrage entre particuliers, surtout au sujet de la validité ou non de la clause compromissoire; prie le congrès de vouloir bien prendre en considération la question et la passer au bureau afin qu'elle soit présentée après l'instruction au prochain congrès."

(Translation)

"The International Federation of the Patronal Associations of Weavers and Manufacturers of Cotton, express the keenest approbation of the proposition of 'Die Ältesten der Kaufmannschaft von Berlin' for the creation of a tribunal of arbitration for the differences between individual and foreign States, recommends to the attention of the Executive Committee of the Congresses the study of the question concerning the unification of the different systems of law, in the matter of arbitration between individuals, especially as regards the validity or otherwise of the clause of compromise, and requests the Congress to take into consideration this question, and to refer it to the desk so that it may be presented to the next Congress after instruction."

M. le Président: M. Pozzi porte l'adhésion de la Fédération susdite à la proposition relative à la création d'un tribunal d'arbitrage pour les différends entre particuliers et États étrangers; cependant, le thème ne représente qu'un cas particulier de la plus vaste question de règlement des questions qui puissent surgir entre citoyens de différents pays, ou entre les pays eux-mêmes.

La question a déjà été touchée par les orateurs précédents. M. Pozzi insiste à ce que soient unifiées les différentes législations au sujet de l'arbitrage de droit privé, législation qui présente les plus notables disparités. Ils s'entretiennent surtout sur les inconvénients auxquels donne lieu le fait que telle législation ne reconnaît pas la validité de la clause compromissoire, et propose une motion afin que la question soit examinée par le comité exécutif et portée à la discussion au prochain congrès. Il ajoute — ce qui est important à connaître — que le commerce international de coton, en Europe, à la suite de longues études, a pu obtenir l'approbation de toutes les associations cotonnières à un règlement de l'arbitrage qui va entrer en vigueur dès le mois de novembre de cette année.

Je remercie M. Pozzi de son intéressante communication. Il s'agit d'une motion avec renvoi au comité permanent, pour faire éventuellement de cette question l'objet d'un ordre du jour du prochain congrès.

M. Pozzi a développé très largement sa proposition. Je ne sais si le service de sténographie a pu prendre le texte italien. Je le prierais en tous cas de bien vouloir compléter le résumé qu'il vient de nous donner en français. Il serait aussi désirable, il me semble, — si c'est l'avis du congrès — d'avoir également un court résumé dans les autres langues, afin que ceux qui ne comprennent ni le français ni l'italien puissent quand même être au courant de la proposition. Un de nos collègues allemands du comité permanent voudra bien nous dire en quelques mots, en allemand, le résumé de la proposition de M. Pozzi. Je pense que tous les membres du congrès auront ainsi satisfaction.

(Translation)

Mr. Pozzi brings the support of the above-mentioned Federation to the proposition concerning the creation of the court of arbitration for differences between individuals and foreign States. What has been said merely suggests the great differences which may arise between citizens of different countries, or between the countries themselves.

The question has already been discussed by the preceding speakers. Mr. Pozzi insists that the different legislation on the subject of arbitration be unified, such legislation now presenting the most noticeable disparities. He emphasizes especially the inconveniences which arise from the fact that such legislation does not recognize the validity of the clause of compromise, and offers a motion that the question be examined by the executive committee and brought up for discussion at the next Congress. He adds — and this is important to notice — that the international cotton business in Europe, after a long study, has obtained the approbation of all the cotton associations to a ruling of arbitration which will be enforced next November.

I thank Mr. Pozzi for his interesting communication. He offers a motion with reference to the Permanent Committee making eventually of this question the subject of an order of the day at the next Congress.

Mr. Pozzi has developed very extensively his proposition. I do not know if the stenographic service has been able to take down the Italian text. I will request him to kindly complete the résumé which he has just given us in French. It would also seem desirable, — if it is the opinion of the Congress, — to have a short résumé in the other languages, so that those who do not understand French or Italian could be informed on the proposition. One of my German colleagues of the Permanent Committee will now tell us in a few words, in German, the résumé of Mr. Pozzi's proposition. I think that all the members of the Congress thus will understand it.

Dr. Soetbeer (*Berlin*) übersetzt die Ausführungen des italienischen Redners wie folgt:

Der Redner stellt sich auf den Standpunkt, daß der Vorschlag des Herrn Dr. Apt gutzuheißen sei. Hauptsächlich aber betont er, daß man auch ein Schiedsgericht zwischen Kaufleuten zum Gegenstande der Erörterung machen solle. Er weist darauf hin, daß schiedsgerichtliche Entscheidungen für Streitigkeiten zwischen Kaufleuten wünschenswert seien, daß aber zurzeit große Schwierigkeiten für die Durchführung dieses Gedankens beständen. Die Schwierigkeiten findet er hauptsächlich darin, daß es Staaten gibt, welche Vereinbarungen für schiedsgerichtliche Entscheidungen überhaupt nicht anerkennen, und daß andere Staaten gewisse Bedingungen stellen, von denen sie die Anerkennung abhängig machen. Hieraus entstünden große Schwierigkeiten, und es erscheine wünschenswert, diese Schwierigkeiten zu beseitigen.

Da aber dieser Gegenstand nicht auf der Tagesordnung des heutigen Kongresses stehe, geht der Vorschlag des Redners nur dahin, daß bei dem ständigen Komitee eine Prüfung der Frage stattfinden möge, damit sie gegebenenfalls auf die Tagung des nächsten Kongresses gesetzt werde.

(Translation)

Dr. SOETBEER of Berlin translates the remarks of the Italian speaker as follows:

The speaker is of the opinion that the proposal of Dr. Apt is to be approved. Mainly, however, he emphasizes the desirability of an expression in favor of arbitration between business men although at the present time there are great difficulties in the way of carrying this into execution. He considers that the difficulties mainly consist in the fact that there are States which do not recognize agreements for arbitral justice at all, while other States prescribe certain conditions upon which they make its recognition dependent. This creates great difficulties and it appears desirable to remove them.

As, however, this subject is not on the order of the day of the present Congress, the speaker proposes that the Permanent Committee should make an investigation of this question, so that it might eventually be placed on the program of the next Congress.

Mr. Lawrence V. Benet, *American Chamber of Commerce of Paris*

Mr. Chairman:

After most careful consideration of the masterly and exhaustive report of Dr. Apt, the delegation of the American Chamber of Commerce in Paris have requested me to place before you certain considerations which may throw a little light on this subject from another point of view. It is in no spirit of opposition to the principles of arbitration that we are inclined to believe that the subject as stated is not of general and immediate interest to chambers of commerce, but that in a modified form it might become a most fruitful subject of discussion at a subsequent Congress. Three reasons have led us to this conclusion: —

First: It is not apparent, nor has it been demonstrated, that there is any great or urgent need of such a tribunal on the part of individuals or corporations engaged in what is generally recognized as commercial relations with foreign governments. I may say, that I have been engaged for nearly thirty years in a business whose dealings have been almost exclusively confined to governments; that our transactions have aggregated in that period very many millions of dollars, and have involved relations with nearly every government in the world, recognized or unrecognized, rich or bankrupt, stable or on the verge of revolution; and during that entire time I can only recall two instances of uncollectible claims, and these for relatively unimportant amounts. Even should such a tribunal be constituted, a man of business with his future before him might long hesitate before haling a government before a court of international arbitration or international equity.

Second: Such a court might even be of direct danger to the interests of individuals having commercial relations with foreign governments. It is hardly conceivable, if the right be given individuals to summon governments before such a court, that governments should not enjoy a corresponding right to summon individuals or corporations before the same tribunal. No man of business can lightly contemplate such a possibility, aside from all question of the expense involved, in time and money.

Third: The establishment of such a court seems to be beyond the range of present possibility. It would appear to us visionary to expect that any government would agree to submit to the jurisdiction of such a court, unless all other countries had made a like agreement; and it is hardly probable that any country with highly developed legal machinery for obtaining justice against the government thereof, would lightly abandon such practice. If such a court were established, it is more than probable that claims antedating the establishment of the court would be excluded from the jurisdiction thereof, and in such case our present interest in such a court might perhaps lose much of its enthusiasm.

Finally: We believe that the subject in its present form is one that is so foreign to the usual activities of chambers of commerce that better wisdom might be to leave its discussion to international lawyers and others more competent in the premises.

If, however, the subject could be modified to read: "International Court of Arbitration for disputes between individuals or between corporations of different nationalities," then we believe that the subject would become one capable of more intelligent discussion by chambers of commerce, and one which might lead to results of the greatest value to all engaged in foreign trade and commerce. In this connection it is worthy of note that the Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York, the American Chamber of Commerce of Paris, and other organizations in close touch with international trade have already provided means for the voluntary arbitration of commercial disputes between individuals of the same or of different nationalities, and we therefore strongly advocate giving a broader and more authoritative scope to this more comprehensive principle of commercial arbitration.

Once the authoritative arbitration of commercial disputes has been realized, success will surely be found for the settlement of such special cases as are covered by Dr. Apt's suggestions.

M. le Président: Cette motion est donc prise en considération pour renvoi au comité permanent.

J'ai, d'autre part, une demande de parole de la part de certains de nos collègues de Boston, toujours sur cette question de l'arbitrage, mais portée un peu plus haut. Je donne donc volontiers la parole à M. EDWIN D. MEAD.

(Translation)

This motion then is taken under consideration for reference to the Permanent Committee.

I have a request for the floor on the part of certain of our colleagues in Boston, still on this question of arbitration, but carried a little higher. I gladly give the floor to Mr. EDWIN D. MEAD.

Mr. Edwin D. Mead, Boston Chamber of Commerce

Mr. President and Gentlemen:

I am very glad that after the general consideration of international arbitration in previous conferences, we have had the subject introduced here to-day of the settlement of cases between States and individuals. I have listened with great interest to Dr. Apt's paper and I am glad that the subject has been introduced here on American soil by a German international thinker. Dr. Apt has quoted Dr. Zorn of Bonn, for whom all men of international acquaintance in America have such high regard, and he mentioned Dr. Zorn's desire that the basis of this international court should be much wider than that proposed from Berlin. He was not speaking of the outline by Dr. Apt, but of the previous suggestions of "Die Ältesten der Kaufmannschaft von Berlin." There are many of us who wish that this whole discussion might have had a broader basis; and it was expected that the general question of arbitration, as a result of the action at London and subsequently at Paris, would have been open for discussion as a regular part of the program; but it was ordered otherwise.

A great step has been taken leading I think far more directly than Dr. Apt may think, to the end that he has in view; and I am glad, I repeat, that Dr. Apt made his proposal on American soil. I wish, as an American, to express the thought which I believe is in the minds of international thinkers in common, that the proposition for the court of arbitral justice which was made at The Hague by our American representative, Mr. Choate, and ably seconded by Baron Marshall von Bieberstein, the leading German delegate at the Second Hague Conference, now the German Ambassador at London, and adopted by the conference, may soon become an accomplished fact.¹

The Secretary of the Department of Commerce and Labor said here this morning that commerce is always the pioneer. In this matter I wish to remind you that commerce has not been the pioneer. Here the governments have been distinctly in the lead; but the men of commerce in this world and particularly this great assembly, have the opportunity to create the strong public opinion which will reinforce the governments in this endeavor.

We remember here in America that it was our former great Secretary of State, Elihu Root, who was the author of the idea of the establishment of a court of arbitral justice, and we remember how he appealed to us all to create that public opinion which should thus reinforce the governments in their efforts for its establishment. In his paper Dr. Apt has referred to the Court of Central America at Cartago, Costa Rica, established by five States, which has the power to decide not only disputes between those States, but also the disputes between private persons and the governments of Central America. But he did not make a far greater appeal, and one far more illuminating; he did not refer to the Supreme Court of the United States. The Supreme Court of the United States exists not only for the purpose of adjudicating cases between states, but between individuals and states and between individuals of different states, as well as between the states and the nation. Now I believe that the court of arbitral justice, when it is established, will in time have its jurisdiction and its functions so

¹ The news of the death of Baron von Bieberstein appeared in the evening newspapers of the day on which the above speech was delivered.

extended as will assure that it will cover all these cases, and I believe that that court of arbitral justice will be the true instrumentality which will accomplish the great end which Dr. Apt has in view, and which it is so necessary to emphasize.

I do not believe in advocating a new court at this time, instead of pressing for the founding of the court of arbitral justice which has already been decreed at the Second Hague Conference, and awaits only its organization. I believe that in urging strongly the establishment of the court of arbitral justice we shall best accomplish what Dr. Apt has at heart. Upon this matter there is room for legitimate differences of opinion. But there is no room for difference of opinion I think as to the importance to commercial men of the establishment of the court of arbitral justice. The commercial bodies of America are a unit in this thing; and it is the duty of commercial men everywhere to hasten the establishment of the court. I therefore venture to submit the following brief resolution:

"The Fifth International Congress of Chambers of Commerce, representing the great interests of industry and commerce which are increasing so rapidly the interdependence of nations and demand so imperatively for their advancement and prosperity the peace and order of the world, urges the commercial organizations of all countries to earnest efforts for the widest extension of arbitration to the settlement of international disputes and for the earliest possible establishment of the Court of Arbitral Justice provided for by the last Hague Conference."

M. le Président: Cette résolution, comme la précédente, ne peut être prise que pour notification au comité permanent. La question n'est pas à l'ordre du jour et nous n'avons pas à voter sur cette résolution.

Nous admirons beaucoup les bonnes raisons que vient de nous donner M. Mead. Sa résolution est donc à transmettre, pour notification, au comité permanent.

J'ai aussi une demande de parole de la part de M. EDWIN GINN.

(Translation)

This resolution, like the preceding one, can only be regarded as a notification to the Permanent Committee. The question is not on the order of the day and we do not have to vote on this resolution.

We admire greatly the excellent reasons that Mr. Mead has just given us, and the matter will be transmitted, for notification, to the Permanent Committee.

I have also a request that the floor be given to Mr. EDWIN GINN.

Mr. Edwin Ginn, Boston Chamber of Commerce

Mr. President and Gentlemen:

The subject before us to-day is one that affects all nations alike. It is for the interest of all that peace and order should reign and anything that will contribute to that end should receive serious consideration. Commercial bodies should use their utmost influence to bring about the establishment of a judicial court and urge their governments to take advantage of it in all future difficulties. Such a court composed of the ablest jurists in the world would naturally command the confidence of all nations.

I am in hearty sympathy with every effort in this direction, but it seems to me we should go even further and bend our energies to the education of the people to a right idea of international relations.

It is the claim of military men that large armaments are necessary to preserve the peace of the world, — a sort of insurance premium paid to secure it. This assumption is not warranted by the facts. Large armaments inspire distrust, fear and antagonism, conditions directly opposed to good will and peace. It is natural, perhaps, that the nations should feel that they must rely for safety upon a physical force, for until recently such protection has been necessary. But now the individual nations compel their subjects to settle their disputes

in the courts; and the nations themselves should refer their difficulties to a judicial court for settlement.

The military system is a tremendous power to cope with, for it is supported by such vast interests that it is almost overwhelming. Five million men are constantly employed in the armies of the world and twenty-five million a part of the time, all of whom are looking to the trade of war for their promotion, as a business, and their families are dependent upon their salaries for a livelihood. Then, nearly two thousand millions of dollars' worth of contracts are given out each year for the building of war ships and for military supplies of all kinds, which men are seeking to secure for the profit that is in them. They are pursuing this business as they would any other, and it is only right to state that the majority probably consider their occupation entirely legitimate and necessary for the protection of the world. It has been stated that nearly one-sixth of the people of the various countries are financially interested in keeping up the present war system. When we consider these things it gives us an insight into the tremendous obstacles against any change.

What have we to oppose them? A handful of men who are willing to put their hands in their pockets to advance the cause of peace, with a very limited amount of money. Not one person in ten thousand ever contributes a dollar to further the interests of peace. Each goes about his daily work as if war did not exist, as if it were not the greatest scourge that mankind has to endure. The best men and women desire that this murderous system be done away with; that the armaments be reduced; that so many men need not be taken from their homes to be supported in idleness at the expense of those who are left behind, and that so many lives need not be sacrificed in the strength of early manhood. But while this feeling is prevalent, it is latent and a change cannot be brought about suddenly by a few good speeches and books scattered in a limited way. No matter how good the speeches made or the books published, they do not reach the public to any great extent, and as a general rule only come to the attention of those who need no conversion.

Our conventions neglect one of the most important objects to be attained, that of appointing a committee of ways and means to discuss matters from a financial standpoint. The work heretofore has been too indefinite, too limited. It has been largely undertaken by scholars and theorists in an academic way rather than on business principles. The co-operation of men of finance has not been secured. The best plans that can be made and the best men that can be engaged will be of little avail unless funds are available for carrying on the work. I do not underrate the effort to arouse the people to activity through conventions, for everything that creates interest in this great cause is helpful, but sudden or temporary emotion dies away as suddenly as it is created. The only way to succeed is by educating the people and this education must of necessity be of slow growth. Not until men shall have learned to subordinate individual preferences and selfish interests, their pride and their passion, to the general welfare of the people, and can be brought to work shoulder to shoulder for the highest interests of mankind will rapid progress be made toward permanent peace.

The individual nations have been treating peace and war as a national affair. Each has felt it necessary to arm itself to ward off attacks from all sources. The larger the armaments, the greater the fear of each other, and this fear can only be dissipated by inaugurating some system of co-operation which shall make the interests of all nations identical. Would it not be well for us to join hands and see how much benefit each can secure for the other? The nations will not cut down their armies voluntarily until provision has been made for securing protection in some other way. This can be done by establishing a small international force for the preservation of peace, consisting of a certain proportion, say ten per cent, of the armaments of each nation. Such an arrangement would in no way disturb the relative efficiency of existing armies. This international force, instead of being organized on the selfish plan of each nation securing as much as possible for itself, should be organized on the broader plan of protection for all, which also would insure greater protection for the individual nation. Any State that is working for the good of all is as much greater in its efficiency as the whole is greater than its parts. Such a wholesome power would strengthen with the years and when

it had been in operation sufficiently long to satisfy the nations that they could rest securely upon its protection, they would not continue to tax themselves so heavily for national armaments no longer needed and those armaments would gradually disappear.

Why should there not be a representative parliament of the nations summoned to settle on some plan of co-operation, similar to The Hague Court? It is not a very great step from the one to the other. Then we should have the three necessary branches of a world federation, — the legislative, the judicial and the executive. When such an organization is formed, the peace of the world will be assured.

In this work of education we shall need to avail ourselves of every avenue of influence, and first among these is schools. Here is our greatest opportunity for impressing upon the young minds, — those who will soon undertake the world's work, — the true principles which should govern international affairs.

Our attention should be directed especially to the courses of study in order that we may improve conditions in the schools. It is surprising that our children should receive the impression that war has contributed cardinally to the development of mankind when so large a part of our histories and so much of the literature studied are devoted to details of the battlefield, — the picturesque features of war, — the marshalling of soldiers in glittering armor, stirring music and brilliant charges, — everything to inspire the young to become a part of this magnificent display. The other side of the picture should be as carefully portrayed, — the return of the regiments reduced to a tenth of their original number, maimed and feeble, carrying torn and bloodstained battle flags. That side of the picture is necessary for a proper comprehension of the meaning of war. That a hundred thousand men should have been killed upon the battlefield should be mentioned, not as something praiseworthy, but as a great loss to the world. History should dwell largely upon the peaceful pursuits of life which have made for growth and progress in civilization, — agriculture, trade, commerce, schools, science.

Then there are the churches which come in contact with all classes and conditions of men the world over. Here is a tremendous influence that should be taken into consideration.

The press is a most powerful influence in this educational work, and one that the world responds to most readily. Editors should be urged to use the greatest care in the selection of material for their publications, and to eliminate as far as possible such matter as would incite the people of one nation against another. Those who write for the newspapers should have a serious appreciation of their responsibility.

Another great body of men of great influence are the merchants, the manufacturers and financiers of the world. They hold within their grasp the means for carrying on war, and they should have the fullest information bearing upon this subject in order that they may see the wisdom of withholding their support from a system that is exercising such a baneful influence.

In this connection I would recommend heartily Norman Angell's book, "The Great Illusion," for it shows very clearly the impotency and utter unfitness of the old war system in this modern commercial age when investments are so largely international and when the real commercial interests of one nation are the interests of all the world. If nations would put more money into peace budgets instead of so much into war budgets and devote themselves to constructive measures in bringing about mutual good understanding, it would be the chief and the effective instrumentality at the present time. The court must take the place of the gun in settling disputes among nations, as it has already done in settling disputes among individuals.

When the well-organized war powers and selfish interests are united in taxing the whole world yearly for the enormous sum of nearly two thousand million dollars, what will a few million dollars do to meet this enormous force? It will take many millions to carry on this work successfully and the funds given by a few generous people are wholly inadequate. Moreover it would not be well for the people to feel that this responsibility had been taken from their shoulders and that the work could be accomplished without their assistance. A person is interested in that in which he has an investment, either in time or money, and it is this

investment, this responsibility, that the friends of peace must take upon themselves if this problem is ever to be solved. Great as is the power of moral and intellectual forces, we have before us a task that few comprehend. It is for us not only to institute the measures necessary to curtail this awful waste of life and property, but to bring conviction to the masses that this question cannot be handled successfully by a few people. It is a work, a most difficult work, for the whole world. We must do our part towards bringing the subject so forcefully before each and every one that all will feel that it is necessary to take a hand in it.

It would be very desirable that this Congress should pass resolutions creating in each country, better still in each organization, a committee to take in hand this great question, to study it as the one problem above all others affecting their own private interests, and to adopt such measures as will secure the means to prosecute successfully the work.

These are some of the considerations which command commercial bodies everywhere to work earnestly for the system of arbitration and international law to supplant the war system and the next important step to this is the establishment of the Court of Arbitral Justice. *(Applause.)*

M. le Président: Messieurs, j'ai laissé la parole expressément à l'honorable M. Edwin Ginn, d'abord parce que c'est un de nos hôtes de Boston, ensuite, parce que c'est un philanthrope bien connu, le fondateur de la "Fondation Universelle pour la Paix." Je le remercie des bonnes paroles qu'il a bien voulu nous apporter, et je propose de verser le texte de son discours aux documents, et le comité permanent en fera le meilleur usage.

La parole est maintenant à M. SAMUEL CAPEN.

(Translation)

I have given the floor to the Hon. Mr. Edwin Ginn, in the first place because he is one of our Boston hosts, and moreover because he is a well-known philanthropist, the founder of the "World Peace Foundation." I thank him for the good words he has kindly brought us, and will refer his address to the Permanent Committee for their careful consideration.

Mr. SAMUEL CAPEN now has the floor.

Mr. Samuel B. Capen, Boston Chamber of Commerce

Mr. President and Gentlemen:

The hour is so late that what I shall have to say will be very brief. Before speaking of the Mohonk Arbitration Conference I wish to second the broad resolution that Mr. Mead has introduced.

It is a matter of great interest that there are two hundred boards of trade and chambers of commerce representing every large city in this country that are practically affiliated with the Mohonk Arbitration Conference and are pledged practically to support the United States government in every move that it makes in the effort to settle every international difference by a court of arbitral justice. I have here and will leave with the Secretary the business men's resolutions offered at Mohonk, and also a copy of the report of the last Lake Mohonk Conference. As an evidence of this position on the part of these organizations, let me call attention also to the fact that nearly two hundred boards of trade endorsed the pacts with other nations made by President Taft a few months ago, and these two hundred organizations represented cities having a population of twenty millions of people.

It is certainly true in this country that the business men and the financial interests recognize that anything which interferes with peace — a war or a rumor of war — throws all business into confusion. But the thing to which I wish especially to call attention is this. We glory in the position which the business interests in this country and other countries have taken on this great movement; but I want to make this one point — that in keeping our leadership we are going to have splendid allies. In the first place, we will have with us

if we take this strong position all the labor interests, for these men recognize that they are the greatest sufferers when there is a contest. And in this country I am very glad to say that we have on our side the Grand Army of the Republic. Last Memorial Day I spoke before one of their Posts, and I never had a more interested audience than those men who had fought through the great Civil War. For those men knew that General Sherman was right when he said "War is hell," and they did not wish their children or their grandchildren to suffer what they suffered. One of the best addresses at Mohonk this year was made by one of the admirals of the United States Navy. Not only that, but we have with us the schools and the colleges and the universities of this country. They are being lined up back of this great movement. These young people are beginning to see that the university in full operation is as much a matter to glory in as a war ship, and it will live forever, while the war ship will be on the scrap-heap within twenty years. And not only that, but we have back of us all the great movements which are represented by Mr. Ginn's world peace movement, and also by the money which is invested under Mr. Carnegie. We have the World's Student Federation, and especially in these recent days the great Christian Endeavor Union, which numbers 79,000 societies in every country represented here, with four millions of members, and these young men and young women are being pledged to this great movement. So I submit, business men, that we want to hold the right of the line. We have had it thus far. We have these great allies. But let us take a strong position in this Congress. Let us pass some resolutions of this kind and strike a note that will be heard round the world. We have got through the age of simple toleration and competition; we have come to co-operation. Nationalism is a great word, but there is a greater word — that is, internationalism. We learned in the last generation to be neighbors; we want out of this great Congress more and more to let the world know that we are brothers. (*Applause.*)

Mr. Frank D. La Lanne, *Philadelphia Board of Trade, President National Board of Trade, 1906-1912*

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Congress:

Two years ago, when in London, I had the honor of proposing the resolution which is now before you. While it has been modified, I want to second it in its modification, for I think the resolution before the Convention to-day is ideal. It provides for the settlement of cases between nations, and it provides for the settlement of cases between individuals and nations. Nothing could be more ideal than this proposition. I believe if the business men represented here, who to my mind represent the most intelligent set of merchants, manufacturers and bankers of the world, will go out with a decisive approval of this resolution, the nations of the world, the diplomats of the world, will bow down their heads in respect to the decisions of this powerful Congress.

I have very little to say except to endorse these resolutions. But after offering the resolution in London two years ago, I was delighted to see that my friends from Germany were highly pleased with the thought, and they took it in the proper spirit; and to-day the eloquent papers that have been read show the progress of the world and the thought of an arbitral court of justice. It is not necessary, if that court is created, that all cases shall, *nolens volens*, come before it. Such cases as two nations wish to have settled can voluntarily be taken to that court. It is not necessary that under the creation of such a tribunal we must have disarmament, but if the tribunal is created the result will be in the future the gradual disarmament of the nations, for it will be cheaper, it will be more honorable to try the cases before an arbitral court of justice than it will be to fight them out and stand after the fight in the same unhappy position towards each other as before.

Before I close I want to read a short letter from Secretary Knox which shows the views of our great Secretary of State, following the views of his predecessors. This letter he writes me on April 26:

"I sincerely hope that a resolution at the International Congress of Chambers of Com-

merce urging the establishment of a permanent arbitral court of justice will be passed, and I will feel very hopeful when such a happy event occurs" — and he adds in a parenthesis that he has had from his identical note urging this thing to all the nations of the world very favorable replies from nearly all.

Gentlemen, it has been an honor to be here, and before we adjourn I wish to say that I represent the committee of the Allied Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce of my city, Philadelphia. It is a great pleasure to be told that your itinerary brings you to Philadelphia on October 15 and October 16. There we want to show you our industrial establishments, and we want to show you that while we are a peace-loving city of Quakers, we have in Philadelphia the greatest shipyards of America. The New York shipyard is in Philadelphia, and the Cramps'. We want to show you that we can drop into the water every year if necessary in Philadelphia alone eight of the greatest Dreadnaughts in the two shipbuilding establishments, so that in building them we hope that we are only creating instruments of peace.

Following our invitation to Philadelphia I am instructed by the committee to say that all delegates will be invited to my house in the country to dinner on the evening of October 16. While later on you will receive formal invitations, which are now being printed, I take this method of expressing my hope that you will all be with me in my country home the evening of the 16th to dinner, and I hope you will put it down as a memorandum. (*Applause.*)

M. le Président: Je remercie M. La Lanne pour la contribution qu'il a donnée à la question de l'arbitrage, contribution qui sera versée, comme les autres, à titre de document, pour le comité permanent.

Je n'ai plus maintenant qu'un orateur inscrit, et il est absent.

Dans ces conditions, messieurs, le nombre des orateurs inscrits étant épuisé, la seconde question à l'ordre du jour peut être considérée comme terminée. Nous avons donc recueilli des matériaux pour le prochain congrès, aussi bien, de nos amis d'Italie, au point de vue de l'arbitrage entre particuliers, que de nos amis de Boston et des États-Unis, au point de vue de l'arbitrage vu de haut, entre nations.

(*Translation*)

I thank Mr. La Lanne for his contribution to the subject of arbitration which will be handed over, like the others, to the Permanent Committee.

There is but one speaker remaining on the list, and he is absent.

Under these conditions, gentlemen, I consider that the list of appointed speakers is exhausted and that the second question on the order of the day may be considered closed. We have, then, gathered material for the next Congress, — from our friends from Italy on the point of view of arbitration between individuals, and from our friends from Boston and the United States, on the point of view of arbitration on a broader scale, between nations.

M. Bernard J. Shoninger, *President of the American Chamber of Commerce of Paris*

Je crains qu'il y ait malentendu. Les Américains et les Anglais n'ont pas bien compris si le congrès a accepté, selon votre jugement, seulement la première résolution proposée par M. Apt. Est-ce que le congrès demande au gouvernement des États-Unis de réunir un congrès pour décider de cette question-là seulement?

(*Translation*)

I fear there is a misunderstanding. The Americans and English have not clearly understood if the Congress has accepted, according to your judgment, only the first resolution proposed by Dr. Apt. Does the Congress ask the government of the United States to call a conference to decide this question only?

M. le Président: Seulement, oui. Je vais rappeler en quelques mots, messieurs, ce qui a été fait. Le second objet à l'ordre du jour porte exclusivement sur l'arbitrage entre "individuals and foreign States," et les conclusions de M. Apt ont été adoptées, personne n'a fait d'objection aux conclusions de son rapport. Alors, on a suggéré que, peut-être, — parce qu'enfin cela dépend du bon vouloir du gouvernement — que peut-être le gouvernement des États-Unis pourrait prendre l'initiative d'une conférence à ce sujet. Le comité permanent pourra se tenir en communication avec le gouvernement des États-Unis pour savoir si tel est son bon plaisir. Nous ne pouvons, naturellement, pas agir autrement.

Le second point, c'est tout simplement une motion relative à voir étudier l'établissement de l'arbitrage entre particuliers. Ce second point n'était pas à l'ordre du jour. J'ai laissé développer la question afin que cela constitue des matériaux pour le prochain congrès. La question sera portée devant le comité permanent, qui, d'ici là, rassemblera des matériaux nouveaux, et la question viendra alors, complète, avec rapporteur, devant le prochain congrès.

Et enfin, la dernière motion, relative à l'arbitrage vu de haut, sera également portée au comité permanent, qui verra quelle suite pratique on peut lui donner.

Le congrès a donc voté une résolution sur les conclusions de M. Apt, et il a pris la meilleure note, avec la meilleure attention, des deux motions déposées, aussi bien pour l'arbitrage entre particuliers que pour l'arbitrage en général.

(Translation)

This question only, yes. I will sum up, gentlemen, in a few words what has been done. The second topic on the order of the day bears exclusively on arbitration between "individuals and foreign States," and the conclusions of Dr. Apt have been adopted, nobody having objected to the conclusions of his report. Then it was suggested — perhaps because, after all, it depends on the good will of the government — that perhaps the Government of the United States might take the initiative with regard to a conference on this subject. The Permanent Committee will enter into communication with the Government of the United States to ascertain if this course will be agreeable to it. We cannot, manifestly, proceed in any other manner.

As to the second point, it is simply a motion relative to an investigation of the establishment of arbitration between individuals. This second point is not on the order of the day. I have permitted the question to be discussed in order that it might afford material for the next Congress. The question will be referred to the Permanent Committee, which from now till then will be gathering new material, and the question will then come, complete, after consideration by a Reporter, before the next Congress.

Finally, the last motion, relative to arbitration from a higher point of view, will likewise be laid before the Permanent Committee, which will decide what practical form can be given to it.

The Congress has, then, voted a resolution on Mr. Apt's conclusions, and it has given the most careful consideration, with the best attention, to the two motions offered, as well for arbitration between individuals as for arbitration in general.

M. Shoninger: Si vous voulez me permettre, je vais dire quelques mots en anglais.

(Translation)

If I am allowed, I will say a few words in English.

M. le Président: Certainement.

(Translation)

Certainly.

Mr. Shoninger: There seems to have been a misunderstanding. When the motion was made by the honorable President, the fellow members here, who do not speak French, some of them, supposed that that was merely an explanation of the position that had been taken

by some of the speakers to draw the line between the argument that had been proposed and so ably presented by Dr. Apt, and the arguments that have also been proposed additionally to this.

M. le Président: Il faut faire une distinction entre le rapport de M. Apt, rapporteur, rapport étudié, complet, et les motions, éloquentes, qui nous ont été présentées ici *ex abrupto*.

(Translation)

One must draw a distinction between the report of Mr. Apt, the Reporter, a studied and complete report, and the eloquent motions which have been presented here *ex abrupto*.

Mr. Shoninger: I concede that, yes; but we did not suppose that we were coming here only to listen to discussion and adopt, without opportunity to make an amendment, in the form of addition or otherwise, something we had read a few weeks ago. What would be the object of coming here thousands of miles if we could not, by some slight amendment, perfect the resolution we were considering? Remember, there is no one that is opposing the resolution of Dr. Apt; we are all in favor of it, but many of us think that that is impossible of realization, while we all think that by enlarging the scope and by inviting the Government of the United States, of which we are the guests to-day, to enlarge the sphere of the inquiry, we would be really placing this Congress in the position that we intended to have it place itself — that is, to invite the United States Government to take the initiative in asking other governments to a conference which shall have for its object the establishment of a tribunal of justice for commercial disputes between individuals or corporations belonging to different nations, and not alone the question on the order of the day, which we consider of far less importance, because it is not so customary, for there is one case of that kind to millions of the other. That is, there is perhaps one case of commercial dispute between an individual and a foreign government against a million disputes between individuals residing in different countries. Therefore I say there has been a misunderstanding here, and since the question has just come up we would like to know now whether in the future procedure of this Congress we are only going to be allowed to vote on questions as they are put in the program, or whether any amendments or corrections or differences of opinion would be allowed to prevail. That is a question that we want to have cleared up now. (*Applause; "Hear, hear!"*)

M. le Président: Je ne puis que vous répéter ce que j'ai dit. Nous avons voté les conclusions de M. Apt. Ce que vous dites en ce moment n'est pas un amendement, c'est une autre question, et cette autre question n'est pas à l'ordre du jour. Je ne puis ainsi pas vous demander de prendre une résolution sur une question qui n'est pas à l'ordre du jour.

(Translation)

I can only repeat what I have already said: we have voted in favor of Mr. Apt's conclusions. What you now state is not an amendment, it is another question, and this other question is not on the order of the day. I cannot, therefore, ask you to pass a resolution on a question which is not on the order of the day.

M. Shoninger: Nous considérons que c'est la même question élargie, et qui a plus de chance d'être réalisée.

(Translation)

We consider that it is the same question, enlarged, and with more chance of realization.

M. le Président: Je ne vous dis pas non; je dois cependant, logiquement, m'en tenir à l'ordre du jour.

(Translation)

I would not contradict that; I must, however, adhere to the order of the day.

M. Shoninger: Mais c'est la même.

(Translation)

But it is the same thing.

M. le Président: Je dis que, moi, qui conduis les délibérations en ce moment, je dois vous faire délibérer sur cette question et non pas sur une autre. Vous avez délibéré sur la première question, nous sommes d'accord. Vous voudriez maintenant élargir . . .

(Translation)

I consider that in conducting the meeting at the present time I must oblige you to deliberate on this question and not on another. You have acted on the first question, we are agreed. Now you wish to amplify . . .

M. Shoninger: Nous ne sommes pas d'accord.

(Translation)

But we are not agreed.

M. le Président: Vous n'êtes pas d'accord sur les conclusions de M. Apt?

(Translation)

You are not agreed on the conclusion of Mr. Apt?

M. Shoninger: Non, parce qu'il ne va pas assez loin.

(Translation)

No, because it does not go far enough.

M. le Président: Pardon. Vous pouvez toujours dire que, pour ce qu'il a dit, vous êtes d'accord. Nous nous sommes occupés de la question des litiges entre particuliers et États, qui était à l'ordre du jour, et pas autre chose; il n'y a pas à aller plus loin, et dans l'espèce je considère la chose acquise. Vous avez entendu les conclusions de M. Apt et il n'y a pas eu d'observation; je considère donc que, jusque-là, nous sommes d'accord.

(Translation)

Excuse me. You can in any event say that as far as what he has stated goes, you are agreed. We have been considering the question of litigation between individuals and States, which was on the order of the day, and nothing else; there was no occasion to go further, and under the circumstances I consider the matter closed. You have heard the conclusions of Mr. Apt, and no comments were made; I therefore consider that up to that point we are agreed.

M. Shoninger: Jusque-là, oui; mais attendez . . .

(Translation)

Up to that, yes; but wait . . .

M. le Président: Bon, nous voilà donc d'accord. Mais vous demandez d'aller plus loin. J'aurais pu, dès le début, dire: non, la question n'est pas à l'ordre du jour. Je n'ai pas voulu le faire, parce que j'ai trouvé très intéressant d'avoir les motions que nous avons eues, aussi bien pour l'arbitrage entre particuliers que pour l'arbitrage en général, et je vous ai dit: nous accueillons ces motions avec la plus grande faveur; nous les verserons comme document au comité permanent, lequel les mettra à l'ordre du jour d'un prochain congrès. Je ne pouvais rien faire autre chose.

Vous ne pouvez pas, messieurs, prendre, à pied levé, une décision sans avoir étudié la question. Jusqu'à présent, dans nos travaux de congrès, nous avons toujours procédé avec

ordre et méthode; les questions ont été mûries, elles ont été étudiées, et c'est sur les conclusions de ces rapports que le congrès s'est décidé. Je ne peux pas faire autrement. (*Applaudissements.*)

(*Translation*)

Good, we are therefore agreed. But you wish to go still further. I might have said from the outset that the question was not on the order of the day. I did not wish to do so, because I have found the motions which we have heard most interesting, both those for arbitration between individuals as well as for arbitration in general, and I have stated that we would gladly listen to these motions, but would collect them in the forms of documents for the Permanent Committee, which would place them on the order of the day for the next Congress. I could do nothing else.

You cannot, gentlemen, adopt a decision on the spur of the moment, without having studied the question. Up to the present, in the work of our Congress, we have always proceeded in an orderly and methodical manner; the questions have been studied and deliberated on, reports have been presented, and it is on the conclusions of such reports that the Congress has acted. I cannot do otherwise. (*Applause.*)

M. Shoninger: Je ne veux pas abuser de votre temps.

(*Translation*)

I do not wish to waste your time.

M. le Président: Je désire une chose, c'est éviter tout mal entendu. J'espère qu'il n'y en a plus.

(*Translation*)

One thing I desire above all, to avoid all misunderstanding. I hope that there will be no more.

M. Shoninger: Oui, il y en a toujours, parce que si on avait dit, dès le commencement: il faut voter oui ou non sur la proposition telle qu'elle est portée à l'ordre du jour, et il t'y aura pas d'amendement . . .

(*Translation*)

Yes, there is always likely to be, for, if it had been stated at the beginning that we must vote yes or no on the proposition as it is laid down in the order of the day and no amendment will be allowed . . .

M. le Président: Je vous demande pardon, ce n'est pas un amendement, c'est une autre proposition.

(*Translation*)

I beg your pardon; this is not an amendment, this is another proposition.

M. Shoninger: Nous aurions peut-être voté autrement si vous aviez posé la question de cette façon.

(*Translation*)

We might have voted otherwise if you had put the question in that manner.

M. le Président: Monsieur, nous ne sommes pas d'accord. Un amendement, dans toutes les discussions, c'est une modification à une proposition déposée. Dans l'espèce, votre proposition est une proposition nouvelle. Nous discutons la question des différends entre particuliers et États, pas autre chose; vous venez maintenant nous demander d'adopter des résolutions sur la question des différends entre particuliers. Ceci est une chose absolument différente.

(Translation)

We do not agree. An amendment in all debates is a modification of a stated proposition. In the present case your proposition is a new proposition. We were discussing the question of suits between individuals and States and nothing else; you now request us to adopt resolutions on the question of disputes between individuals. This is an entirely different thing.

M. Shoninger: Vous allez plus loin; vous demandez que nous, Américains, demandions à notre gouvernement d'inviter les autres gouvernements à discuter une question qui est, à notre avis, trop limitée; et c'est cela que nous ne voulons pas adopter; nous voulons aller plus loin.

(Translation)

You go even further; you ask us, Americans, to petition our government to invite other governments to discuss a question which, in our opinion, is too limited, and it is this which we do not wish to adopt. We wish to go further.

M. le Président: Je ne demande pas mieux que d'aller plus loin avec vous, je suis avec vous la main dans la main, quand la question sera étudiée; mais la question des litiges entre particuliers n'est pas étudiée.

(Translation)

I would ask nothing better than to go further with you, I am with you hand in hand after the question has been studied; but the question of suits between individuals has not been studied.

M. Shoninger: Par qui?

(Translation)

By whom?

M. le Président: Par nous. Au prochain congrès, vous aurez un rapport complet.

(Translation)

By us. At the next Congress we will have a complete report.

M. Shoninger: Nous avons reçu ces rapports il y a cinq ou six semaines, et nous les avons étudiés.

(Translation)

We have received these reports some five or six weeks ago and we have studied them.

M. le Président: Vous n'avez pas reçu un rapport sur les différends entre particuliers: il n'y en avait pas, la question n'était pas à l'ordre du jour.

Enfin, monsieur, il me semble que c'est bien simple. Vous dites: nous voulons aller plus loin. Moi aussi, moi, personnellement; mais moi, président du congrès, je ne peux pas aller plus loin aujourd'hui. Il faut de l'ordre et de la méthode.

(Translation)

You have not received a report regarding suits between individuals; there was none. The question was not on the order of the day.

Finally, it seems to me that the case is very simple. You say, we wish to go further and so say I also. That is, personally. But, as President of the Congress I cannot go further to-day. We must have order and method.

M. Shoninger: Peut-être que M. Apt acceptera l'amendement. (*Applaudissements.*)

(*Translation*)

Perhaps Mr. Apt will accept the amendment. (*Applause.*)

M. le Président: Ce n'est pas un amendement. Je vous en prie, agissons avec ordre et méthode. Soyez assuré de toute notre bonne volonté. Comme vous, je veux aller plus loin, mais ce ne sera pas aujourd'hui. *Step by step.*

Maintenant, l'invitation aux États-Unis de convoquer une conférence, c'est une idée que M. Apt a eue. Ce seront les États-Unis ou ce sera un autre État; mais ce n'est pas parce que vos compatriotes d'Amérique voudraient aller plus loin qu'ils devraient s'opposer à la première mesure sur laquelle nous sommes d'accord. Ce sera le gouvernement des États-Unis ou un autre. Laissez la question telle qu'elle est; elle est bien posée, méthodiquement posée.

Je pense qu'il n'y a plus de malentendu. Nous avons nettement délibéré sur une question à l'ordre du jour, avec un rapport fait et observations faites. Nous avons accueilli avec la plus grande faveur, je le répète, les observations qui nous ont été faites en dehors de la question à l'ordre du jour. J'aurais pu empêcher cette discussion; je ne l'ai pas voulu, et j'ai même tenu, sur la question d'arbitrage international, à laisser parler nos amis de Boston avec toute l'ampleur qu'ils ont voulu. Ce sont d'ailleurs des personnalités importantes, à qui je suis heureux de rendre personnellement hommage.

Je pense donc, messieurs, qu'il n'y a pas de malentendu et que vous pouvez parfaitement adopter la besogne telle qu'elle a été faite aujourd'hui.

(*Translation*)

It is not an amendment. I beg of you proceed with order and method. Be assured of our best wishes. Like yourself I would like to go further but we cannot do so to-day. "Step by step."

Now the invitation to the United States to convoke a conference is one of Mr. Apt's ideas. It might be the United States or it might be another country; but your American compatriots should not oppose the first measure, on which we are agreed, because they happen to desire to go still further. It might be the government of the United States or some other. Let the question be as it is. It is properly put, methodically put.

I do not think there is any further misunderstanding. We have carefully debated on the question on the order of the day. A report was made and comments heard. We have heard with the greatest favor, as I said before, the remarks which were made beyond the question on the order of the day. I could have prevented this discussion. I did not wish to do so and I have even encouraged our Boston friends to speak on the question of international arbitration. They are, moreover, persons of consequence to whom I am glad to pay my respects.

I think, therefore, gentlemen, that there is no misunderstanding and that you can perfectly well accept the proceeding as carried out to-day.

Mr. William J. Thomas, American Chamber of Commerce of Paris: Mr. President, may I ask one question? Are we to understand your ruling to mean that should we desire to offer an amendment to any of the propositions here discussed it will not be in order to bring that forward and to vote on the question? Suppose we have an amendment to propose, will it be in order to do so and to have the question put up to the meeting?

M. le Président: Un amendement peut toujours être admis; mais ce dont vous parlez n'est pas amendement, c'est une autre question. Je pense que vous pouvez vous en rapporter à toute notre bonne volonté et à la méthode que nous apportons dans tous ces travaux.

Si personne ne demande plus la parole, je déclare la séance levée. Réunion demain à dix heures. Je dois vous informer que, à la demande de l'un des orateurs qui désire prendre

la parole sur la quatrième question, relative aux réformes postales, cette question, au lieu de venir demain, sera remise à jeudi. Il y aura donc une interversion entre les questions à l'ordre du jour.

La séance est levée.

(Translation)

An amendment is always admissible. But what you are speaking of is not an amendment; it is another question. I think you can yourself bear witness to all our good feeling and the method which we follow in all our proceedings.

If no one wishes to speak further I declare the session adjourned to meet to-morrow at 10 o'clock. I ought to inform you that, at the request of one of the speakers who wishes to take the floor on the fourth question, with reference to postal reforms, that question, instead of coming up to-morrow, will be postponed to Thursday. There will thus be a change of order in the question on the order of the day.

The session is adjourned.

Adjourned at 5 P.M., to meet on Wednesday, September 25, at 10 A.M.

Third Session

The session was called to order at 10.08 A.M., September 25, 1912, President LOUIS CANON-LEGRAND in the chair. At the desk, General Secretary ÉMILE JOTTRAND, Dr. MAX APT and Mr. EDWARD A. FILENE.

President Canon-Legrand

Je donne la parole à M. le vice-président Filene, pour qu'il explique aux Américains la façon exacte dont nous procédons dans les travaux du Congrès, afin d'éviter les petits malentendus comme ceux qui se sont produits hier. M. FILENE a la parole.

(Translation)

I give the floor to Vice-President Filene, who will explain to the Americans the exact way we proceed in the work of the Congress, so as to avoid such little misunderstandings as have occurred yesterday. Mr. FILENE has the floor.

Mr. Edward A. Filene, *Boston Chamber of Commerce; Vice-President of the Congress*

Mr. President:

I am going to try to explain very briefly once more just what the question at issue last night was. On the program of the session we had a question which was the first question presented by Dr. Apt yesterday, "Arbitration between Individuals and Foreign Nations." Through the courtesy of the officers of this Congress an opportunity was given to present two other questions of arbitration. I say the courtesy of the officers, because it is an unwritten law established in each of the conventions so far held — established as a matter of common sense and self-preservation — that no question shall be acted upon except such as have been placed upon the program after consideration by the Permanent Committee. This rule is one which I think is backed up and will be backed up by all of us as we go from one Congress to another, for we realize that these Congresses cannot continue to be successful if questions which have not been considered and studied are acted upon hastily. Not only will the semi-official representatives from different countries cease coming to these Congresses, but I think that none of us who are members of chambers of commerce which are not semi-official will want to go to Congresses where we may be involved in votes on large questions which our own chambers have not had time to consider and to instruct us as to their attitude. I say, by the courtesy of the officers, two other questions were allowed to be discussed, with the understanding stated in advance that they were not to be voted upon. The first of those two questions was presented by Signor Pozzi, who advocated arbitration between individuals of different countries. The third was presented by Mr. Edwin D. Mead, who offered a resolution asking for arbitration between the different nations of the world. Mr. Bernard J. Shoninger, president of the American Chamber of Commerce of Paris, and my friend, with his well-known zeal for the good things for the commercial men of the world which has placed him in the forefront of the American Chamber of Paris, desired that the first question, which had already been passed on and voted on affirmatively, should be amended, and our President, M. Canon-Legrand, while saying that he was personally in favor of the extension of arbitration between individuals of different nations, said that he was compelled to rule that that was not an amendment, but a new question, which would have to be sent back to the Permanent Committee and studied, to be presented at the next Congress.

Now, it undoubtedly seemed to Mr. Shoninger and others that our President's ruling was perhaps a bit arbitrary. As a matter of fact, it was not our President's ruling, because

the question had already been decided by the Permanent Committee at Paris, and in this fashion. We of America and Boston presented in London two years ago the question of arbitration between nations, and we expected and hoped that it would be presented at this Congress for vote. The Permanent Committee, meeting in Europe this spring, decided that in their judgment another question ought to take precedence as leading up, perhaps, to this question in the future. They decided that the question presented by Dr. Apt, arbitration between individuals and foreign nations, should be the one question on the program of this Congress. By that decision they made the distinction between other types of arbitrations, whether it be between individuals of different nations or between different nations themselves. And so our President simply confirmed what the Permanent Committee had already carefully gone over. I need not say to you that we Americans were disappointed at that result. But we saw that if these Congresses are to continue we must help to so adjust the proceedings that they will more and more bring the important business men of all nations really together in this consultation. For finally, gentlemen, what we are first after, what we must first get, is international understanding, and through that we hope to go on to international agreements.

M. le Président: En ouvrant la séance, j'ai à vous donner connaissance de télégrammes de félicitations reçus. Nous avons reçu des télégrammes de félicitations de Pera (Constantinople), de Norvège, de la Suisse, de Czernowitz, de Düsseldorf, de Christiania, de Budapest, de Londres et de Milan.

M. SHONINGER demande la parole pour une question d'ordre.

(Translation)

In opening the session, I must make you acquainted with the telegrams of congratulations which we have received. We have received telegrams of congratulations from Pera (Constantinople), from Norway, from Switzerland, from Czernowitz, from Düsseldorf, from Christiania, from Budapest, from London and from Milan.

Mr. SHONINGER requests the floor for a question of order.

Mr. Bernard J. Shoninger, American Chamber of Commerce of Paris

Mr. President:

Perhaps, as our distinguished Vice-President has spoken in English, it will be better for me to make a brief explanation in English. The misunderstanding yesterday arose from two causes, — first, because the majority of the delegates here had not been told at the beginning of the Congress, the opening session yesterday, that, in order to make amendments or to propose amendments to or corrections of any of the eight orders of the day that were on the program, the matter would have to go back to the Permanent Committee to be reported at a future conference. If that had been told us at the very beginning, or if we had received written notice to that effect at the same time that we received the various pamphlets containing the very able reports of the different Reporters, all this misunderstanding would have been avoided.

That was the first cause. The second was, that the majority, of which I was one — and I understand French thoroughly — did not hear the proposition when it was put to a vote by our honorable President. Therefore, we did not know that the proposition, as proposed by Dr. Apt, had actually been carried and voted for unanimously, because the majority of Americans — and, I dare say, a number of others — would perhaps have said, if I might use language perhaps a little bit common in this particular instance, we are beginning with the tail of the dog instead of with the dog itself (*laughter*), and the dog, even for one of that particular breed, is a very short tailed one at that. (*Laughter.*)

So I think I am merely voicing the sentiments of those who did not quite understand the customs of these Congresses, as we have now been told, in speaking as I do at this time.

The misunderstanding arose through failure to explain, and also through failure to hear the decision as put by the President yesterday in connection with the vote.

We are all here for a single purpose. Delegates from all countries have one idea in view, and that is to facilitate commercial intercourse. We want to do all we can; we have but one idea. None of us wish to put any obstacles in the way. I would be the very last person in the world to put obstacles in the way of good achievement by this Congress. (*"Good, good!" and applause.*)

Dr. Soetbeer, "*Der Deutsche Handelstag*" of Berlin

Meine Herren!

Wir sind mit der Stellungnahme des Herrn Präsidenten einverstanden. In London wurde in Aussicht genommen, die Frage des Schiedsgerichts beim nächsten Kongreß zu verhandeln. Es wurde aber der Wunsch geäußert, daß wir nur solche Fragen behandeln, über die gute Berichte vorliegen. Als das „Comité Permanent“ in diesem Sommer über diese Frage verhandelte, lag kein Bericht vor über die Frage des Schiedsgerichts im allgemeinen. Es lag allerdings ein Bericht vor über die Frage des Schiedsgerichts zwischen Privaten und Staaten. Nach einer eingehenden Diskussion im „Comité Permanent“ hat man unter Berücksichtigung dieser Sachlage sich dafür entschieden, den Gegenstand unserer Tagesordnung so zu beschränken, wie es geschehen ist. Wir können und konnten nicht anders als einen Beschluß fassen lediglich über den Antrag des Herrn Dr. Apt, und wir haben vollständig verstanden, daß der Präsident eine Abstimmung darüber herbeigeführt und das Ergebnis dieser Abstimmung festgestellt hat. (*Beifall.*)

(*Translation*)

Gentlemen, we agree with the position taken by the President. The intention was, in London, to consider the question of a court of arbitration at the following Congress. The desire was, however, expressed that we should only consider questions regarding which proper reports were presented. When the Permanent Committee handled the question this summer, no communications had been presented regarding the general question of arbitration. There was only a communication regarding the question of arbitration between individuals and States. After an exhaustive discussion in the committee, it was decided, in view of the circumstances, to restrict the subject on our order of the day in the manner which has been done. We cannot and could not do otherwise than pass a resolution based solely on the conclusions of Dr. Apt, and we have entirely understood that the President called for a vote thereon, and the result of the vote was declared. (*Applause.*)

M. le Président: Je ne voudrais pas rouvrir la discussion, nous ne devons pas la rouvrir. Il ne faut pas confondre un amendement avec une proposition nouvelle. Je dois maintenant donner la parole à M. FILENE.

Avant de commencer pratiquement nos travaux je rapelle ceci: la nomination des membres du comité permanent se fait par les délégués des divers pays au Congrès.

(*Translation*)

I would not like to reopen the discussion, we must not reopen it. An amendment should not be confounded with a new proposition. I must now give the floor to Mr. FILENE.

Before entering upon the practical part of work on hand, I call attention to the fact that the appointment of the members of the Permanent Committee is affected by the delegates of the various countries represented at the Congress.

M. Ledoux: Monsieur le président, je demande la parole pour une question d'ordre.

(*Translation*)

Mr. President, I wish to raise a point of order.

M. le Président: Pardon, vous n'avez pas la parole.

(Translation)

Excuse me, you have not got the floor.

M. Ledoux: Alors, je vous la demande. Question d'ordre.

(Translation)

Then I ask for the floor. Point of order!

M. le Président: Laissez-moi, monsieur; je suis à faire une communication, et je vous prie de me laisser continuer.

Je dis donc, messieurs, que les membres du comité sont désignés par les délégués au Congrès des différents pays. C'est-à-dire que s'il y a ici des délégués du Brésil, du Pérou, de l'Équateur, ils peuvent entre eux désigner un délégué au comité permanent.

Dans les pays où il existe une Fédération Nationale des Chambres de commerce, on peut abandonner à cette Fédération le droit d'élection prévu.

Voilà, messieurs, ce que je désirais vous dire, afin que, avant la fin de la session, d'ici demain, ceux d'entre vous qui sont venus de tous les pays du monde au présent Congrès puissent, avant de la quitter, avant de nous quitter, faire leur désignation pour les délégués au comité permanent. Et je prie M. Filene de vouloir bien, dans sa langue, vous expliquer la même chose.

(Translation)

One moment; I am making a statement, and I would request you to let me continue.

As stated before, gentlemen, the members of the Permanent Committee are designated by the delegates of the various countries represented at the Congress: that is to say, if there are here, for instance, delegates from Brazil, from Peru, from Ecuador, they may designate amongst themselves a delegate to the Permanent Committee.

In the countries where there exists a National Federation of Chambers of Commerce, the said federation may be conceded the right of election provided in this respect.

This I wanted to tell you in order that prior to the termination of the session, to-morrow, those amongst you who have come from all parts of the world to this Congress may, before leaving us, designate the members of the Permanent Committee that they choose. I would request Mr. Filene to explain the same thing in English.

Mr. Filene: Provision seven provides that the effective members and the deputies shall be nominated by the delegates to the Congress of the different countries; delegates of countries having a National Federation of Chambers of Commerce or of industrial and commercial associations may abandon the right of nominating members of the Permanent Committee in favor of such a federation. Members of the Permanent Committee shall exercise the mandate thus conferred upon them until the succeeding Congress.

The whole issue, gentlemen, is this: There is no objection and can be no objection to, and there is no power to prevent a proper amendment of any question before this Congress. The only issue is that no new question shall be thrust upon the Congress and voted upon before it is studied.

Mr. Urbain J. Ledoux, Union of International Association, Brussels, Belgium: Mr. Chairman, please: Has the previous question been closed by the Congress itself or by one man? I ask whether the Congress moves or does not. The chairman is to rule, but shall the Congress follow him? Our principal purpose in holding the Congress in America was to insure that business men should have a voice, and that voice was towards arbitration, peaceful arbitration of disputes between nations. I have just returned from Europe, and I

have been at the Fourth Congress at London, one of the delegates with Mr. Filene and Mr. Fahey of the Boston Chamber of Commerce. Our principal purpose in going to Europe was to secure a better understanding between the commercial and the industrial men of the Old World and the New. But our main purpose was to secure on the program of the Congress the inclusion of the question of arbitration between nations, and that has been sidetracked. I ask in full justice to all the delegates of Europe, to all those who are receiving you, the members of the Permanent Committee, that in some way this may not be. There is a question there that was discussed before your Permanent Committee in Paris, that has been changed from the arbitration of disputes among the family of nations to disputes between individuals. And we are, I believe, in America broad enough and progressive enough to believe that we can differ in some ways in our opinions, but that we can at the present moment think more of the family of nations than of the individual or of our own personal interests in business.

Dr. Soetbeer (Berlin): Der Herr Präsident hat daran erinnert, daß die Wahlen zum „Comité Permanent“ auf zweierlei Weise vollführt werden können, nämlich, entweder indem die Angehörigen einer Nation hier unmittelbar die Wahlen vornehmen, oder indem die Herren einer Zentral-Organisation, wie sie beispielsweise für Deutschland im Deutschen Handelstage besteht, ihre Vertretung übertragen. Dieses möge zwischen heute und morgen geschehen.

Ich bitte die Herren aus Deutschland, sich nach Schluß der Vormittagssitzung in dieser Ecke des Saales (*weist von der Tribüne aus nach links*) zusammenzufinden, damit wir uns über die Angelegenheiten verständigen.

(Translation)

The President has reminded us that the selections for the Permanent Committee may be made in two ways, viz. by the delegates of any one nation here making their election direct, or by their appointing any central organization to which they may belong as their representative for the purpose, as for instance for Germany “Der Deutsche Handelstag.” This may be done between to-day and to-morrow.

I would request the members from Germany at the close of the morning session to assemble in this corner of the hall (*indicating the left of the platform*) in order that we may come to an understanding on this subject.

Mr. Ledoux: I ask whether the Congress rules or not?

M. le Président (interrompant): Pardon, M. Ledoux —

(*Malgré les interruptions, M. Ledoux continue.*)

(Translation)

Pardon me, Mr. Ledoux —

(*Mr. Ledoux continues in spite of the interruption.*)

Mr. Ledoux: I ask whether the Congress shall decide. (*Cries of “Out of order.”*) I would ask — (*Hisses.*)

Mr. Filene: Whom are you representing?

M. le Président: Je vous en prie, M. Ledoux, la question a été terminée; nous ne voulons pas la rouvrir.

(Translation)

I beg your pardon, Mr. Ledoux; the question has been closed; we do not wish to reopen it.

M. Ledoux: Mais, vous l'avez terminée vous-même, non pas le Congrès.

(Translation)

But you have closed it yourself, and not the Congress.

M. le Président: Je vous demande pardon, ne rouvrons pas la question.

Nous continuons donc la discussion. L'ordre du jour appelle maintenant "The Unification of Legislation relating to Checks."

Le rapporteur ART a la parole.

(Translation)

I beg your pardon; let us not reopen the question.

Let us continue our discussion. The order of the day now calls for "The Unification of Legislation relating to Checks."

Dr. ART, the Reporter, has the floor.

THE UNIFICATION OF LEGISLATION RELATING TO CHECKS

Dr. Max Apt, Syndic of "Die Ältesten der Kaufmannschaft von Berlin"

Gentlemen:

Before I begin to make my speech on the subject of the unification of the laws of the check, I must call to mind the great success that the Second Hague Conference had concerning the unification of the laws of exchange. Almost all States with the exception of the United States and England have accepted a convention dealing with the unification of the laws of exchange.

The International Congress of the Chambers of Commerce has continually asked for the unification of the laws of exchange, and I believe that the Congress has reason to be very satisfied with that success, and I hope that the States which have not yet accepted the convention will in time follow the example of the other States.

It is not possible at such a great meeting to discuss all the points of the check, but it is sufficient to deal with the most important principles. Therefore in my report I will speak of the rules that "Der Deutsche Handelstag" has proposed.

(Continuing by repeating in French the introductory statement)

Messieurs:

Avant de commencer mon rapport sur l'unification des législations concernant le chèque, il me faut faire mention du grand succès qu'a eu la seconde conférence diplomatique de La Haye sur l'unification du Droit relatif à la lettre de change. Presque tous les États — à l'exception des États-Unis d'Amérique et de l'Angleterre — ont adopté une convention sur l'unification des droits relatifs aux lettres de change.

Ce congrès international des Chambres de commerce a réclamé sans cesse l'unification de ces droits et je crois qu'il a tout lieu d'être satisfait de ce succès. J'espère que les États qui n'ont pas encore adhéré à cette convention, suivront bientôt l'exemple des autres États.

Il est impossible dans une si grande assemblée de discuter tous les détails du chèque. On devra donc se borner aux points essentiels. C'est pourquoi je vous présente dans mon rapport les idées que "Der Deutsche Handelstag" a adoptées.

(Continuing in German)

Sehr geehrte Herren!

Der im Juni 1910 in London abgehaltene Vierte Internationale Handelskammer-Kongreß faßte in Bezug auf das internationale Scheckrecht folgenden Beschluß:

„Der Kongreß nimmt mit Interesse die ihm schon vorgelegten Schriftstücke entgegen und stellt die Frage zur Vervollständigung des Studiums für die Tagesordnung der nächsten Sitzung zurück, indem er seine volle Sympathie für den Gedanken der Vereinheitlichung der internationalen Gesetzgebung über den Scheck zum Ausdruck bringt.“

Die von dem Kongreß erwartete Vervollständigung des Studiums ist, soweit Deutschland in Betracht kommt, dadurch erfolgt, daß einmal Herr Dr. Trumpler im Auftrage der Handelskammer zu Frankfurt a. M. eine „Systematische rechtsvergleichende Darstellung des Scheckrechts aller Kulturvölker“ gegeben hat und ferner Herr Geheimrat Dr. Felix Meyer im Auftrage der Ältesten der Kaufmannschaft von Berlin in gleicher Weise wie beim Weltwechselrecht eine ausführliche Untersuchung über die Vereinheitlichung der Wertscheckrechte angestellt hat, von denen die ersten Lieferungen bereits der Öffentlichkeit übergeben worden sind und von denen eine Reihe von Exemplaren hier auf dem Tisch des Hauses liegt. Es hat ferner der Ausschuß des Deutschen Handelstages sich in seiner am 24. Juni d. J. in Köln a. Rh. stattgehabten Ausschuß-Sitzung mit der Frage beschäftigt und die Überzeugung gewonnen, daß eine Vereinheitlichung der Scheckrechte im Interesse von Handel und Industrie nicht nur wünschenswert, sondern auch durchführbar sei. Er hat eine Reihe von Leitsätzen aufgestellt, die mir eine treffliche Grundlage für die Schaffung eines Wertscheckrechts zu bilden scheinen, und ich werde deshalb mich darauf beschränken, ohne auf Details einzugehen, diese Leitsätze näher zu begründen.

Bevor ich hierzu übergehe, kann ich nicht unterlassen, des hervorragenden Erfolges zu gedenken, den die zweite, auf den 15. Juni 1912 nach dem Haag berufene diplomatische Weltwechselrechts-Konferenz gehabt hat, die zu einer Konvention geführt hat, der, abgesehen von den Vereinigten Staaten von Nordamerika und England, alle Staaten beigetreten sind. Der Internationale Handelskammer-Kongreß, welcher die Schaffung eines Weltwechselrechts seit jeher betrieben hat, hat allen Grund auf dieses Ergebnis stolz zu sein. Der Verlauf der Verhandlungen über das Weltwechselrecht eröffnet aber auch aussichtsvolle Aspekte für die Schaffung eines Wertscheckrechts.

I. Begriffsbestimmung

Die erste Frage, welche sich erhebt, ist die, soll das Wertscheckrecht eine Begriffsbestimmung des Schecks in das Gesetz aufnehmen oder nur die wesentlichen Bedingungen aufstellen, unter denen die Urkunde als Scheck angesehen werden soll. Das eine, glaube ich, hat die historische Entwicklung der gesamten Scheckfrage ergeben, daß die Ansicht, die von der englischen Gruppe vertreten wird, als ob der Scheck lediglich als eine Unterart des Wechsels anzusehen sei, nicht mehr aufrecht erhalten werden kann. Aber auch die Versuche der französischen Gruppe, eine Legaldefinition des Schecks zu geben, veranlassen zu zweifeln und bestätigen den alten Grundsatz: *omnis definitio est periculosa*.

Eine Definition des Schecks zu geben erscheint auch unnötig, wenn man, wie es das deutsche Scheckgesetz tut, sich darauf beschränkt, die wesentlichen Erfordernisse des Schecks aufzuzählen. Dem Vernehmen nach hat auch die diplomatische Weltwechselrechts-Konferenz, die sich kursorisch auch mit der Scheckrechtfrage befaßte, von einer Legaldefinition des Schecks Abstand genommen und sich damit begnügt, die wesentlichen Erfordernisse des Schecks zum Ausdruck zu bringen. Ich glaube daher auch dem Kongreß als ersten Leitsatz vorschlagen zu dürfen:

„Es ist nicht nötig, daß das einheitliche Scheckgesetz eine Begriffsbestimmung des Schecks aufstellt; vielmehr genügt es, die wesentlichen Bestandteile des Schecks zu bestimmen.“

II. Passive Scheckfähigkeit

Zu den bestrittendsten Fragen des Scheckrechts gehört die Frage, ob der Kreis der beziehbaren Personen beschränkt werden soll. Man unterscheidet Gesetze, welche nur einen Bankier als passiv scheckfähig betrachten, diejenigen Gesetze, welche ein Bankinstitut, ein Kreditinstitut und Kaufleute für passiv scheckfähig halten, und solche, welche eine volle passive Scheckfähigkeit bestimmen. Schließlich diejenigen Gesetze, welche eine Soll-Vorschrift für die Beziehung des Bankiers und denen gleichgestellte Anstalten vorschreiben, und Schecks, die diesen Erfordernissen nicht entsprechen, als Wechsel verstempeln.

Es fragt sich nun, welchen Standpunkt soll das einheitliche Wertscheckrecht einnehmen. Gewiß ist es richtig, daß der wirtschaftliche Nutzen des Schecks nur dann eintreten kann, wenn er auf Personen oder Firmen lautet, die berufsmäßig für fremde Rechnung Geld annehmen und Zahlungen leisten. Nur auf diese Weise wird eine Ansammlung des Kapitals an diejenigen Stellen ermöglicht, welche es den Bedürfnissen der allgemeinen Volkswirtschaft zugänglich machen können. Und es ist auch zuzugeben, daß je größer der Kreis der Bezogenen ist, um so schwieriger ist die Abrechnung, durch welche im Wege der Buchung und mit Hilfe des Giroverkehrs eine wirkliche Ersparnis an baren Umlaufmitteln erzielt werden kann. Trotzdem könnte sich meines Erachtens das Wertscheckrecht nicht auf den Standpunkt stellen, den das englische Recht angenommen hat, wonach lediglich der Bankier als Bezogener figurieren kann. Denn selbst wenn der Begriff des Bankiers in Wirklichkeit so klar wäre, wie er es nicht ist, daß der Nehmer sofort in der Lage ist, festzustellen, ob er einen gültigen Scheck vor sich hat oder nicht, darf man doch nicht ohne Not in die Wirtschaftsentwicklung anderer großer Staaten wie Frankreich eingreifen, wo Notare in ihrer Eigenschaft als Vermögensverwalter vielfach Barguthaben in Verwahrung haben, über die die Hinterleger im Wege des Scheckverkehrs verfügen. Es liegt auch kein Grund vor, großen Export- und Importfirmen mit überseeischen Geschäftsbetrieb, die an ihrem ausländischen Niederlassungsorte keine Bankverbindung besitzen, zu verbieten, Schecks auf sich ziehen zu lassen. Deshalb kann das Wertscheckrecht es zwar als wünschenswert aussprechen, daß Schecks nur auf Bankiers und gleichgestellte Anstalten gezogen werden sollen, keineswegs aber dürfen die anders lautenden Schecks als nichtig erklärt werden. Deshalb schlage ich Ihnen vor, für das internationale Scheckgesetz den Satz zu akzeptieren:

„Es ist zu bestimmen, daß Schecks nur auf einen Bankier gezogen werden sollen; doch darf ein auf einen Nichtbankier gezogener Scheck nicht rechtsunwirksam sein.“

III. Wesentliche Bestandteile des Schecks

Wenn der Scheck einen Zahlungsauftrag darstellt, an den sich rechtliche Folgen knüpfen, so liegt es im Interesse der Verkehrssicherheit, daß dieser Auftrag in einer schriftlichen Urkunde dargestellt wird, die für alle Rechtsfragen des Scheckverkehrs die Grundlage bildet. Daraus ergibt sich von selbst, daß die Schriftlichkeit als erste Formerfordernis für den Scheck aufgestellt werden muß. Ebenso selbstverständlich muß die Angabe des Bezogenen als wesentliches Erfordernis für den Scheck anerkannt werden, weil ohne diese Angabe ein Scheck nicht einlösbar sein würde. Ob der Scheck die in den Scheck anzunehmende Bezeichnung als Scheck enthalten müsse, darüber herrscht in den einzelnen Ländern keine Übereinstimmung. Wenn die Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika und Großbritannien Schecks ohne die Scheckklausel besitzen, so liegt es daran, daß dort der Scheck ein besonders gearteter Wechsel ist und als solcher schlechthin gilt, wenn er nicht an einen Bankier trassiert worden ist. Indes muß gerade für ein Papier, das als Zahlungsmittel dienen soll, die Aufnahme der Scheckklausel als wesentliches Erfordernis befürwortet werden, da sie jeden Zweifel darüber nimmt, was die Parteien gewollt haben und weil durch die Scheckklausel dem Aussteller zum Bewußtsein gebracht wird, daß er durch dieses Papier über ein Guthaben bei dem Bezogenen verfügt und sich eventuell strafrechtlicher Verfolgungen aussetzt, wenn er eine solche Urkunde ohne Deckung ausstellt. Dem Vernehmen nach hat sich auch die diplomatische Konferenz für die Scheckklausel ausgesprochen.

Das Requisit der Zahlungsklausel, d. h. die an eine Person oder Firma gerichtete Anweisung des Ausstellers, aus seinem Guthaben eine bestimmte Geldsumme zu zahlen, wird von den zahlreichen geltenden Scheckgesetzen nicht überall ausdrücklich gefordert, doch auch dort, wo seine Notwendigkeit nicht besonders betont wird, wird sie als unumgänglich erachtet. Jedenfalls herrscht darüber Übereinstimmung, daß die Weisung an den Bezogenen unbedingt gegeben werden muß und von keiner Gegenleistung abhängig sein darf. In diesem Sinne hat sich dem Vernehmen nach auch die diplomatische Konferenz ausgesprochen.

Die Angabe einer Geldsumme wird für den Scheck überall als notwendiges Erfordernis aufgestellt. Man ist darüber wohl auch auf der internationalen Konferenz einig gewesen, daß nur Geldschecks den Gegenstand eines einheitlichen Gesetzes bilden dürfen. Der Überweisungsscheck eignet sich nicht zur Behandlung im einheitlichen Scheckgesetz, vielmehr muß es den Banken überlassen bleiben, den Gebrauch dieser Urkunde durch besondere Geschäftsbedingungen zu ordnen.

Ob die Bezeichnung des Zahlungsortes als wesentlicher Bestandteil des Schecks angesehen werden soll, kann streitig sein. Gleichwohl dürfte es sich für ein einheitliches Scheckgesetz empfehlen, die Angabe des Zahlungsortes als wesentlichen Bestandteil des Schecks anzusehen. Nach dem deutschen Recht gilt, wenn kein Zahlungsort bzw. kein Ort bei der Firma des Bezogenen angegeben ist, als Zahlungsort der Ausstellungsort; nach österreichischem Recht dagegen der Ort, an dem der Bezogene seine Hauptniederlassung hat. Die letztere Regelung ist nicht zu befürworten, denn auf diese Weise ist in den zahlreichen Fällen, in denen der bezogene Bankier mehrere Hauptniederlassungen hat, eine eindeutige Bestimmung des Zahlungsortes überhaupt nicht möglich.

Die Bezeichnung des Ausstellungsortes ist deshalb von großer Wichtigkeit, weil aus dem Ortsdatum es sich ergibt, ob es sich um einen Inlands- oder Auslandscheck handelt und sich danach die Präsentationsfrist regelt.

Auch der Tag der Ausstellung ist für jede Urkunde von großer Bedeutung, weil der Beginn der Präsentationsfrist nur vom Zeitpunkte der Ausstellung an gerechnet werden kann.

Da der Zweck des Schecks der ist, sofort eingelöst zu werden und seine Ausartung zu einem Kreditpapier verhütet werden muß, so ist die Sichtstellung des Schecks auch für das einheitliche Scheckgesetz zu adoptieren.

Zu den unwesentlichen Bestandteilen des Schecks, d. h. zu denjenigen, die fehlen können, ohne daß dadurch die Gültigkeit des Schecks beeinträchtigt wird, gehören die Guthabensklausel und die Bezeichnung des Zahlungsempfängers. Was die Guthabensklausel betrifft, so enthält das englische Gesetz dieselbe nicht, trotzdem hält der strenge Handelsbrauch den Scheckverkehr in reellen Grenzen. Auch für das Wertscheckgesetz erscheint die Guthabensklausel überflüssig, da die charakteristische Eigenschaft der Urkunde bereits durch die Scheckklausel bezeichnet wird. Wer einen Scheck ausstellt, weiß eben, daß er dadurch über ein Guthaben verfügt.

Die Aufnahme der Guthabensklausel als wesentlicher Bestandteil des Schecks ist auch deshalb nicht zu empfehlen, weil über den Begriff Guthaben die einzelnen Gesetze voneinander abweichen. Hiernach empfiehlt es sich also nicht, im Wertscheckrecht die Guthabensklausel als wesentliches Erfordernis aufzunehmen.

Ebensowenig wesentlich erscheint die Bezeichnung des Zahlungsempfängers. Ein Scheck ohne Angabe des Zahlungsempfängers wird eben als Inhaberscheck behandelt.

Als wesentliche Bestandteile des Schecks sind anzuerkennen:

- a) Unterschrift des Ausstellers,
- b) Bezeichnung des Bezogenen,
- c) Scheckklausel,
- d) Zahlungsklausel,
- e) Geldsummenangabe,
- f) Angabe des Ortes und des Tages der Ausstellung.

Dagegen sind als unwesentliche Bestandteile anzusehen:

- Guthabensklausel,
- Bezeichnung des Zahlungsempfängers,
- Bezeichnung des Zahlungsortes.

IV. Der Scheck im regelmäßigen Verkehr

Für den Scheck im regelmäßigen Verkehr kommen folgende Verhältnisse in Betracht:

- a) das Verhältnis des Bezogenen zum Aussteller,
- b) das Verhältnis des Bezogenen zum Inhaber,
- c) das Verhältnis des Ausstellers und der Indossanten zum Inhaber.

Was das Verhältnis des Bezogenen zum Aussteller anbelangt, so stützt sich dasselbe auf die zwischen diesen beiden getroffenen Vereinbarungen, den sogenannten Scheckvertrag, auf Grund dessen der Kontoinhaber berechtigt ist, über sein Guthaben beim Bezogenen mittels Schecks zu verfügen. Diesen Scheckvertrag etwa gesetzlich festzulegen, empfiehlt sich für ein einheitliches Scheckgesetz nicht; denn es handelt sich hier um Verhältnisse, die der Scheckziehung zugrunde liegen, im Scheck selbst aber nicht zum Ausdruck gelangen.

Die Frage, ob dem Scheckinhaber ein direktes Klagerecht gegen den Bezogenen in demselben Umfange eingeräumt werde, in welchem der letztere dem Aussteller nach dem zwischen ihnen obwaltenden Rechtsverhältnis zur Einlösung des Schecks verpflichtet ist, wird von den verschiedenen Gesetzen verschieden beantwortet. Das direkte Klagerecht des Scheckinhabers gegen den Bezogenen wird nur in denjenigen Ländern anerkannt, welche annehmen, daß mit der Begebung des Schecks auch der Anspruch auf die Deckung übergeht, wie in Frankreich, Belgien, Italien. Für das Weltscheckrecht empfiehlt es sich nicht, einen direkten scheckrechtlichen Anspruch gegen den Bezogenen zuzulassen, denn stets bildet ein dem Schecknehmer fremdes Verhältnis das Klagefundament, und der Scheckinhaber wird, weil er allen hier maßgebenden Vereinbarungen und Abmachungen fernsteht, in der Regel auf die Mitwirkung des Ausstellers angewiesen sein. Dem Scheckinhaber würde also, wenn der Aussteller ihm nicht beisteht, das direkte Klagerecht sehr wenig nützen. Darum empfiehlt es sich auch für das einheitliche Scheckgesetz nicht, einen scheckrechtlichen Anspruch des Inhabers gegen den Bezogenen anzuerkennen.

Während der Aussteller zum Bezogenen nie erst durch die Scheckziehung, sondern bereits durch den sogenannten Scheckvertrag in ein bestimmtes Rechtsverhältnis tritt, wird ein solches Rechtsverhältnis zwischen dem Aussteller und dem Schecknehmer immer nur durch den Verlauf des Scheckgeschäfts, durch den Akt der Begebung hervorgebracht. Daß in der Begebung ein stillschweigender Vertrag zu sehen ist, ist allgemein anerkannt. Wie aber dieser Vertrag juristisch zu beurteilen ist, ist von jeher streitig gewesen. Infolge dieser verschiedenartigen juristischen Beurteilung, die auf die verschiedene zivilrechtliche Auffassung der Sachlage in den einzelnen Ländern zurückzuführen ist, empfiehlt es sich nicht, im Weltscheckrecht eine Bestimmung zu treffen, vielmehr muß die Frage, wieweit der Nehmer des Schecks auf die Deckung berechtigt sein soll, den Landesgesetzen zur Regelung vorbehalten bleiben.

V. Indossament

Der durch Indossament übertragbare Ordercheck ist in sämtlichen Staaten eingeführt. Verschieden dagegen wird die Frage beantwortet, ob der Scheck der Orderklausel bedarf, um indossierbar zu sein, oder ob er grundsätzlich indossierbar ist, so daß es einer besonderen Klausel bedürfe, um die Indossibilität auszuschließen. Für das Weltscheckrecht dürfte es sich empfehlen, sich dem letzteren Standpunkt anzuschließen. Die Rechtswirkung des Indossaments ist die, daß der Scheck auf den Indossatar übertragen wird. Der Indossatar kann den Scheck weiter indossieren, entweder durch Voll- oder Blankoindossament. Der Scheckschuldner hat eine Pflicht zur Legitimationsprüfung; zahlt er ohne Prüfung, so wird er von seiner Verbindlichkeit nicht befreit. Der Scheckschuldner muß ferner die Identität des Scheckinhabers mit der Person, auf welche die formale Legitimation lautet, prüfen. Zur Prüfung der Indossamente kann er nicht verpflichtet werden.

Ein Indossament des Bezogenen ist unwirksam; dasselbe könnte bei einem Inhaberscheck auch ohne vorangegangenes Indossament an ihn oder bei Schecks mit einem Blanko-

indossament vorkommen und würde eine abstrakte Schuldverpflichtung gegenüber jedem späteren Inhaber ohne Rücksicht auf das Vorhandensein eines Guthabens begründen, also dieselbe Bedeutung haben, wie ein Annahmevermerk. Es ist daher ebenso wie letzterer unwirksam.

VI. Präsentation

Die Scheckschuld ist eine Holschuld, d. h. der Schuldner ist nicht verpflichtet, die geschuldete Summe dem Scheckinhaber bei Fälligkeit von selbst zuzustellen. Die Rücksicht auf einen ordnungsmäßigen Verkehr gebietet, daß die Umlaufzeit des Schecks begrenzt und die Vorlegungsfrist nicht länger ausgedehnt wird, als zu einer zweckentsprechenden Verwertung des Schecks erforderlich ist. Die Präsentationsfristen sind in den einzelnen Ländern sehr verschieden, und es wäre sehr wünschenswert, daß das einheitliche Scheckgesetz feste Fristen vorschreibt sowohl für das Inland wie für das Ausland.

VII. Einlösung

Was die Einlösung des Schecks anbelangt, so liegt es im Interesse des gesamten Zahlungsverkehrs, die Barzahlung tunlichst zu vermeiden. Die nicht bare Einlösung geschieht durch Verrechnung. Der Inhaber kann die Annahme einer Teilzahlung verweigern. Löst der Bezogene einen ihm ordnungsgemäß vorgelegten Scheck trotz Vorhandenseins eines ausreichenden Guthabens nicht ein, so ist er dem Aussteller nach den allgemeinen bürgerlich-rechtlichen Bestimmungen zum Ersatz des durch die Nichteinlösung entstandenen Schadens verpflichtet. Auch der Tod oder die Geschäftsunfähigkeit des Ausstellers oder die Geschäftsunfähigkeit des Bezogenen sind auf dessen Einlösungsrecht ohne Einfluß. Auch nach Ablauf der Vorlegungsfrist ist der Bezogene zur Einlösung berechtigt. Der Bezogene, der den Scheckbetrag bezahlt, kann nach deutschem Recht die Aushändigung des quittierten Schecks verlangen.

Nach dem englischen Recht hat der Inhaber den bezahlten Scheck auszuhändigen, doch ist es streitig, ob er zur Quittungsleistung verpflichtet ist. Das französische und englische Recht enthalten über die Art der Einlösung keine Vorschriften, doch ist nach dem französischen und belgischen Recht die Quittungsleistung auf dem Scheck vorgeschrieben. Nach italienischem, portugiesischem, rumänischem, bulgarischem und schweizerischem Recht ist die Scheckzahlung nicht besonders geregelt, vielmehr werden die entsprechenden wechselrechtlichen Normen auch auf den Scheckverkehr angewandt. Nach einigen Rechten ist der Inhaber zur Annahme von Teilzahlungen verpflichtet, in anderen Rechten ist zum Ausdruck gebracht, daß er zur Annahme von Teilzahlungen nicht verpflichtet ist.

Für das einheitliche Scheckgesetz kommt folgendes in Betracht: „Der Bezogene kann Quittungsleistung verlangen. Der Inhaber ist nicht verpflichtet, Teilzahlungen entgegenzunehmen.“

VIII. Widerruf

In Bezug auf den Widerruf des Schecks stehen sich zwei Auffassungen gegenüber. In England kann der Aussteller den Scheck frei widerrufen und der Scheck gilt nicht nur im Falle des Konkurses des Ausstellers, sondern auch dann als widerrufen, wenn der Bezogene von dem Tode des Ausstellers Kenntnis erhält. Die Länder der französischen Gruppe erblicken dagegen in der Übertragung eines Wechsels und Schecks gleichzeitig die Zession des Anspruchs auf die in den Händen des Bezogenen befindliche Deckung. Daraus folgt für diese Länder der Grundsatz der Unwiderruflichkeit des Schecks, sowie die weitere Bestimmung, daß der Scheckinhaber im Falle des Konkurses des Ausstellers abgesonderte Befriedigung aus dem Guthaben verlangen kann. Für ein einheitliches Scheckgesetz empfiehlt es sich, zwischen diesen Auffassungen die Mitte zu wählen und zu bestimmen, daß ein Widerruf des

Schecks erst nach Ablauf der Vorlegungsfrist wirksam sein soll. Daß der Scheck auch nicht ungültig werde durch den Tod oder Eintritt der Geschäftsunfähigkeit des Ausstellers, wohl aber dadurch, daß dem Bezogenen die Eröffnung des Konkurses über das Vermögen des Ausstellers bekannt wird.

IX. Verrechnungsscheck und gekreuzter Scheck

Das im Reichsbankverkehr und im Abrechnungsverkehr eingeführte Verbot der baren Auszahlung eines Schecks durch den quer über den Text gesetzten Vermerk „Nur zur Verrechnung“ ist in Deutschland so üblich geworden, daß bei den Reichsbankanstalten ein sehr großer Teil der vorgelegten Schecks diesen Vermerk trägt. Durch die Verrechnungsschecks wird die Gefahr, daß der Scheck von einem Unbekannten eingezogen werden kann, erheblich verringert. Die Verrechnung gilt als Zahlungsleistung und demzufolge die Vorlegung zur Verrechnung als Vorlegung zur Zahlung. Andere Länder, insbesondere England, kennen das Institut des „Crossing.“ Die Kreuzung ist entweder eine allgemeine, wo die Zahlung an eine beliebige Bank oder an einen beliebigen Bankier geschehen kann, oder sie ist eine besondere, wenn die Tilgung an den nanhaft gemachten Bankier bewirkt wird. Das „Crossing“ wirkt insofern erziehllich, als es den einzelnen mehr und mehr daran gewöhnen wird, die Kasenföhrung durch einen Bankier bewerkstelligen und sich bei diesem ein Konto anlegen zu lassen. Die Kreuzung wird durch den Verrechnungsscheck nicht ersetzt, denn die Verrechnungsklausel schließt prinzipiell jede Barzahlung aus, was beim „Crossing“ nicht der Fall ist. Auch versagt der Verrechnungsscheck vielfach im internationalen Verkehr. Erst der gekreuzte Scheck und der Verrechnungsscheck nebeneinander ermöglichen die Ausstellung von jedem Bedarf entsprechenden Schecks mit fast unbedingtem Schutz gegen Diebstahl und Fälschung. Es ist daher für das einheitliche Scheckrecht zu empfehlen, daß neben dem Verrechnungsscheck auch gekreuzte Schecks zugelassen werden.

X. Regreß

Was die Ausübung des Regresses im Falle der Dishonorierung des Schecks betrifft, so gelten hierfür in den meisten Staaten dieselben Grundsätze, wie sie für die Ausübung des Wechselregresses bestehen. In Deutschland bestehen indes einige Verschiedenheiten. So ist für den Scheck an Stelle des Protestes die Prädeklaration zugelassen. Die Erhebung des Protestes ist bei dem Wechsel am Zahlungstage zulässig, sie muß spätestens am zweiten Werktag nach dem Zahlungstage erfolgen. Dagegen kennt das deutsche Scheckrecht keine Protestfrist; vielmehr muß hier der Protest vor Ablauf der Vorlegungsfrist erhoben werden. Für ein einheitliches Scheckgesetz empfiehlt es sich daher, für die Ausübung des Scheckregresses dieselben Normen wie für die Ausübung des Wechselregresses zur Anwendung zu bringen.

So komme ich dazu, Ihnen zu empfehlen, sich dahin auszusprechen, daß eine Vereinheitlichung der Scheckrechte im Interesse von Handel und Industrie nicht nur wünschenswert, sondern auch durchführbar ist, und daß die vom Deutschen Handelstage beschlossenen Leitsätze eine gute Grundlage für die Vereinheitlichung der Scheckrechte bilden. Im Zusammenhange damit möchte ich Sie bitten, eine Idee zu befürworten, welche seitens der deutschen Delegation am Schlusse der diplomatischen Weltwechselrechts-Konferenz vorgetragen worden ist. Es ist darauf hingewiesen worden, daß, wenn das Wechselrecht von den Staaten angenommen wird, es nötig sein würde, für dieses Universalrecht auch einen Universal-Gerichtshof einzusetzen, welcher in letzter Instanz über die Streitfragen des Weltwechselrechts zu entscheiden haben würde, und es ist beschlossen worden, daß die Konferenz an die Regierungen der einzelnen Staaten die Bitte richte, die Frage zu prüfen, ob es möglich sein würde, einen derartigen gemeinsamen Gerichtshof für das Weltwechselrecht zu schaffen. Ich glaube, daß diese Idee

eine sehr glückliche ist, weil erst eine einheitliche Rechtsprechung eine Gewähr dafür bietet, daß das Weltwechselrecht auch einheitlich zur Ausführung gelangt.

Dieselben Gründe, welche für die Etablierung eines Gerichtshofes für das Weltwechselrecht sprechen, führen auch zur Etablierung eines Gerichtshofes für das Wetscheckrecht, und ich bitte Sie, daß Sie Ihre Sympathie für diesen Gedanken etwa in der Form aussprechen, daß der Internationale Handelskammer-Kongreß die Idee, einen Gerichtshof für die Auslegung des Weltwechsel- und Wetscheckrechts zu schaffen, mit großer Sympathie begrüßt und die Regierungen auffordert, dieser Idee zur Verwirklichung zu verhelfen.

(Continuing in French)

Messieurs, j'espère que mes explications vous ont persuadés que l'unification des lois du chèque est utile et nécessaire pour le commerce et l'industrie, et qu'il est possible d'atteindre cette uniformité.

Mais l'uniformité des lois sur la lettre de change et le chèque ne pourra être conservée à moins d'être soutenue et garantie par une juridiction commune.

Pour cela la deuxième conférence diplomatique a adressé aux gouvernements des États qui y étaient représentés la prière d'examiner la question s'il serait possible d'établir une juridiction commune pour le droit commun en matière de lettres de change. Et nous pouvons ajouter, en matière du chèque.

Je vous prie d'exprimer votre sympathie pour cette idée.

(Continuing in German)

Hiernach beantrage ich:

Der Handelskammer-Kongreß wolle beschließen:

1. „Die Vereinheitlichung der Scheckrechte ist nicht nur wünschenswert, sondern auch durchführbar. Der Kongreß richtet an die einzelnen Regierungen die Bitte, diese Vereinheitlichung auf einer baldmöglichst zusammenzubrufenden Staatenkonferenz vorzubereiten.

2. Eine notwendige Ergänzung zur Schaffung eines Weltwechsel- und Wetscheckrechts bildet die Einrichtung eines Gerichtshofes im Haag, welcher die Streitfragen im Weltwechsel- und Wetscheckrecht in letzter Instanz zu entscheiden hat.“ (*Beifall.*)

(Translation)

Gentlemen:

The Fourth International Congress of Chambers of Commerce, held in London, June, 1910 passed the following resolution as regards international legislation on checks:

“The Congress accepts with interest the documents submitted to it and postpones for the order of the day of its next meeting the question on hand for the purpose of rendering more complete the study thereof, expressing at the same time its entire sympathy concerning the suggestion of the unification of international legislation on checks.”

The more thorough study of the question which the Congress looks forward to is effected as far as Germany is concerned by the publication on the part of Dr. Trumpler, under the instructions of the Chamber of Commerce at Frankfort, of a systematic comparative treatise on the laws on checks as promulgated by all civilized nations, and also by the fact that Privy Councillor Dr. Felix Meyer, upon being requested to do so by “Die Ältesten der Kaufmannschaft von Berlin,” as he also has done in the case of the laws existing on bills of exchange, has made a thorough study concerning the unification of the laws on checks, a work of which the first parts have already been published. Moreover, the Executive Committee of “Der Deutsche Handelstag,” at its meeting held on the 24th of June at Cologne, has taken up the same question and has arrived at the conviction that the unification of the laws on checks is not only desirable in behalf of commerce and industry, but is also, by all means, a thing capable of being carried into effect. The Committee has agreed on a series of fundamental principles which appear

to me an excellent basis for the creation of a universal law on checks and, therefore, without going too much into details, I shall confine myself to further substantiating the said fundamental principles.

But before entering upon the subject I feel it my duty to lay stress on the excellent results realized by the second diplomatic conference on laws on bills of exchange held on the 15th of June, 1912, inasmuch as the same has brought about a convention of the States excepting the United States and England. The International Congress of Chambers of Commerce, which from its beginning has done everything to bring about a universal law on bills of exchange, can truly be proud of this result. The course of the negotiations bearing on universal legislation on bills of exchange is such therefore, as to promise a great deal in behalf of universal legislation concerning checks.

I. Definition

The first question which presents itself is whether or not the law should contain any definition of a check or should confine itself to determining the essential conditions to be met by an instrument to be considered as a check. This much, I believe, has been established by the historic development of the entire check question, — that the view represented by the English group, according to which a check is merely a variety of a bill of exchange, can no longer be considered correct. But the attempts likewise of the French group which tried to establish a legal definition of the check give rise to doubt and confirm the old adage: *omnis definitio est periculosa*.

Besides that, definition appears unnecessary provided that, as is done in the German check law, one confines oneself to enumerating the essential requisites of the check. I understand, too, that the conference upon universal legislation on bills of exchange, which also took up cursorily the question of legislation on checks, has desisted from establishing any legal definition of a check and has merely confined itself to expressing what it considered to be the essential requisites of a check. I believe, therefore, that as a first fundamental principle I may submit to the consideration of the Congress the following:

"It is not necessary that a uniform law on checks should give a definition of a check. It is sufficient to determine the essential elements of a check."

II. Passive Capacity

One of the most discussed questions is whether or not the number of persons on whom checks may be drawn should be restricted. There are laws which only admit the passive capacity of a banker, laws which consider a banking institute a credit institute and merchants as being passively capable and which provide for unlimited passive capacity. Finally, there are laws which prescribe a so-called debit regulation for the relations between bankers and institutions of equal standing and which require the use of revenue stamps on all checks which do not meet these requirements.

The question thus arises, which is the point of view to be taken by universal legislation on checks. There is no doubt but that the industrial value of a check can only be realized by its being drawn on persons or firms whose occupation it is to accept the funds of third parties on deposit and to make payments for their account. Only in this way is it possible to obtain sufficient accumulations of capital at such places to be accessible and available for the general requirements of business. And it must also be conceded that the larger the number of drawees the greater the difficulties in the clearing through which, by means of booking and transfers by certificate, a considerable saving in specie in circulation can be brought about. Nevertheless, according to my opinion, universal legislation on checks could not take the point of view of English jurisprudence according to which

a banker can be the drawee, because even if the definition of the word banker were in reality sufficiently clear (which it is not) to enable the person in whose favor the check is drawn to ascertain whether he has received a check which is valid or not, one should not, without absolute necessity, interfere with the economic development of other great States, such as France, where notaries in their quality as trustees frequently have on hand cash deposits of which the depositors dispose by means of checks. Nor is there any reason why large export and import houses with transatlantic or transpacific branches in places where there are no banks should be prevented from having checks drawn on themselves. For this reason, universal legislation on checks may declare desirable that checks should only be drawn on bankers and equivalent institutions, while on the other hand checks drawn on other parties must not be declared void or non-valid. I therefore propose to you to adopt for the international law on checks the following:

"It should be determined that checks should be only drawn on a banker, but checks drawn otherwise, that is, on a party not a banker, shall not be void in law."

III. Essential Elements of the Check

Assuming that a check is an order to pay, producing legal obligations, it is in the interests of business security that this order should be represented by a written instrument upon which all legal questions regarding check transactions are based. Thence results the first requisite for the form of the check. That is to say, it should be in writing. It is likewise self-evident that the maker's signature must appear on the check as an essential element, because without it the check could not be paid. The provisions in the various countries differ as to whether the character of the check must be indicated on the same. The fact that the United States and England have checks without the so-called check clause is due to the circumstances that there the check is a bill of exchange of a special kind and in fact is considered equal to a draft unless it is drawn on a banker. Yet for a document which is to be used as an equivalent of currency, the insertion of the check clause as an essential element is to be recommended inasmuch as it removes all doubt as to the intention of the parties and also because the check clause recalls to the maker the fact that by this document he disposes of a deposit held by the drawee and that he exposes himself to criminal proceedings in case he issues the check without the same being provided for. I understand also that the diplomatic conference has decided in favor of the check clause.

The requirements of the payment clause, that is to say, the instructions given a person or firm by the maker to pay from his deposit a certain amount of money, is not insisted upon in all States, but even in cases where its necessity is not expressed specially it is at any rate considered indispensable. All agree that the instructions to the drawee must be given unconditionally and must not be made dependent upon any counter-consideration. This appears also to have been the point of view taken by the diplomatic conference.

The indication of the amount of money is everywhere considered as an indispensable requirement for all checks. The International Conference has without doubt considered it understood that only checks calling for money could form the object of a uniform law. The transfer check is not suited to being put within the scope of a uniform check law and it must be left to the banks to regulate the use of such a document by means of special conditions.

It is an open question whether the designation of the place of payment is to be considered as an essential element of a check. Yet, for a universal check law it might be well to recommend the indication of the place of payment as an essential element. According to the German law if no place of payment is given, the place at which the check has been made is considered the place for payment; according to the Austrian

law, however, the place where the drawee has his principal place of business. The latter provision is decidedly unfair because in numerous cases where a banker, as drawee, has a number of principal offices a clear definition of the place of payment is simply out of the question.

The designation of the place where the check has been made is of particular importance because from the date appearing there it is shown whether it is a domestic or a foreign check, — a matter which is of importance when determining the term for presentation.

Also the day on which the check is made is for each such document of great importance because the beginning of the term for presentation can only be calculated from the date of the making thereof.

Inasmuch as the object of the check is to be converted immediately into ready money and inasmuch as its degeneration into a mere credit paper or credit document must be prevented, the condition payable at sight should also be accepted for the universal check law.

Amongst the inessential elements of a check, — that is, such elements as could be dispensed with without interfering with the validity of a check, — are the provision clause and the indication of the payee. As regards the provision clause, the English law does not contain any, although their strict commercial custom keeps the use of checks within well-defined limitations. Further the provision clause appears superficial for a universal check law because the characteristic quality of the "document" is already defined and indicated by the check clause. He who issues a check knows that by so doing he disposes of a "provision" or deposit in his favor.

The insertion of the provision clause as an essential element of the check is not to be recommended, either, for the reason that the word "provision" (deposit in favor of some one) is interpreted differently by the different laws; and this is the reason why it cannot be recommended, that in the universal check law the provision clause should be inserted as an essential requirement.

Nor does the designation of the payee appear to be essential. A check on which the payee is not specified is simply treated as check payable to bearer.

As essential elements of a check, should be declared:

- (a) Signature of the maker.
- (b) Designation of the drawee.
- (c) Check clause.
- (d) Payment clause.
- (e) Indication of amount.
- (f) Indication of place and date of making.

On the other hand, the following may be considered as non-essential elements:

- Provision clause.
- Designation of payee.
- Designation of the place of payment.

IV. The Check in Regular Transactions

For a check passing through the regular channels of business the following relations are to be taken into consideration:

- (a) The relation of the drawee to the drawer or maker.
- (b) The relation of the drawee to the bearer.
- (c) The relation of the drawer and the endorsers to the bearer.

As regards the relation of the drawee to the maker, it is understood that this is based on the agreements made between the two, that is, the so-called check agreement

based on which the depositor is entitled to dispose of his deposit with the drawee by means of checks. It is not to be recommended that this check agreement should be fixed and defined by law in case of uniform check legislation, because this is a matter which involves conditions which are of basic importance for the making of checks but which are not expressed in the check itself.

The question as to whether the holder of a check should be given the same right of action against the drawee which obtains against the drawee on the part of the maker of the check pursuant to the legal relations existing between them as far as the payment of the check is concerned, is decided differently by the various laws existing thereon. The direct right of action of the holder of the check against the drawee is only recognized in those countries which assume that the delivery of the check to a third party involves also the transfer of the claim for payment, as is done in France, Belgium and Italy. In a universal check law it would not be recommended to admit a direct claim resulting from a check, against the drawee, because the foundation for the action would at all times be a relation with which the bearer of the check is not familiar, and inasmuch as the bearer of the check is not acquainted with all the agreements and contracts which are decisive here he would as a rule be forced to resort to the co-operation of the maker. In other words, unless the maker assists the holder of the check, the direct right of action would be of very little avail. It would, therefore, not seem convenient that a universal check law should embody a legal claim of the checkholder against the drawee.

While the relation of the maker to the drawee is not established at any time by the making of a check only, but above all by the so-called check agreement, such a relation as between the maker and the first holder of the check is only brought about in the course of the check transaction, but is the delivery. It is generally recognized that the delivery involves a silent agreement, but at all times it has been an undecided question in law as to how this contract should be interpreted legally. Owing to this different conception from the legal point of view which must lead to varying interpretation of the matter according to the various civil codes, it scarcely would be recommended to insert a provision in the universal check law covering this point and it would rather seem necessary that the question as to how far the first holder of the check is to be entitled to recovery should be left to the decisions of the respective countries.

V. Endorsement

The check to order, transferable by endorsement, is recognized in all States, but the provisions as to whether a check requires the order clause to become capable of endorsement, or whether it is endorsable at all events, so that it would require a special clause to exclude the possibility of endorsement, vary in different countries. For the universal check law it might be recommended to adopt the latter point of view. The legal effect of the endorsement is the transfer of the check to the person in whose favor it is endorsed; the latter can further endorse a check either by an endorsement in full or by an endorsement in blank. It is the duty of the payer to verify the authenticity of the signatures; if he pays without such verification he is nevertheless not released from his obligation. The payer must further verify the identity of the check-holder with the person to whom the check appears payable originally. He cannot be obliged to verify the previous endorsements.

An endorsement on the part of the drawee is not effective. The same might occur on a check to bearer without previous endorsement to him or on checks with a blank endorsement and would prove an abstract obligation as against any later holder without any consideration concerning the existence of the requisite provision. It would, therefore, have the same signification as an "acceptance." Both are therefore ineffective.

VI. Presentation

The obligation represented by a check is a debt to be collected. That is to say: the creditor is not obliged to transmit to the holder of the check the amount due. For the sake of a business-like transaction the term for presentation of the check must be limited and not be extended beyond the time necessary for a suitable utilization of the check. The terms within which a check must be presented differ very much and it would be highly desirable that a uniform check law should prescribe fixed terms both for domestic checks and checks payable abroad.

VII. Payment

As regards the payment of the check, it is in the interest of general exchange to avoid payment in specie as far as possible. Settlements other than in cash are made on accounts. The holder can refuse to accept a partial payment. If the drawee fails to pay a check presented to him in due form in spite of the provision of a sufficient balance, he becomes liable under the general civil code to the amount of any damage suffered through the non-payment. The death or business incapacity of the maker or the business incapacity of the drawee are without influence on the right to payment. Even after the expiration of the term of presentation the drawee is permitted to pay the check. The drawee under the German law is entitled to obtain possession of the receipted check after payment.

According to English law the bearer is obliged to deliver the paid check although it is a question whether he is obliged to give a receipt. The French and English laws contain no provisions in regard to the method of payment, but according to French and Belgian laws receipt on the check is required. Italian, Bulgarian, Portuguese, Roumanian and Swiss laws do not specially deal with the payment of checks, but the corresponding portions of the laws relating to bills of exchange are usually applied to check transactions. In some legislation the holder of the check is obliged to accept partial payment while other laws stipulate that he is not obliged to accept partial payment.

For the uniform check law the following is suggested: "The drawee may request receipt. The payee is not obliged to accept partial payment."

VIII. Revocation

In regard to the revocation of checks there are two contradictory ideas. In England the maker can cancel a check at will, and the check is not only void in the case of the bankruptcy of the maker but also when the drawee is notified of the death of the maker. The countries of the French group, however, view the negotiation of checks and drafts as an assignment of the right to the funds in the possession of the drawee. This leads these countries to the principle of the irrevocability of the check as well as the further provision that the holder of the check in case of the bankruptcy of the maker may demand a separate settlement from the credit balance. For a uniform check law it is desirable to adopt a medium between these two conceptions and to provide that a cancellation of the check shall only be effective after the expiration of the term for presentation. That the check should not become void through the death or business incapacity of the maker; but the check should be void on notice to the drawee of the insolvency of the maker.

IX. Transfer Check and Crossed Check

The practice in business with the Imperial Bank and in clearing transactions of forbidding payment of a check in cash by the inscription "for transfer only" written across the face of the check has become so common in Germany that a large proportion of the checks presented at the branches of the Imperial Bank bear this notation. By means of the transfer check the risk of its collection by an unauthorized person is materially reduced. The entry counts as payment and consequently the presentation for deposit as presentation for payment. Other countries, particularly England, have a system known as "crossing." The "crossing" is either general, in which case payment can be made through any bank or banker, or is a special crossing, in which case payment can only be made through the authorized banker. The crossing is desirable in one respect as it accustoms individuals more and more to handle their funds through a banker and therefore to open bank accounts. The crossing is not exactly replaced by the transfer check, since the transfer clause absolutely excludes payment in cash, which is not the case with crossing. The transfer check has also some weaknesses as regards international transactions. Only the crossed check and the transfer check both would provide checks for every use with practically complete protection against theft and forgery. It is therefore desirable for the uniform check law to permit both the transfer check and the crossed check.

X. Recourse

As regards recourse in case a check is dishonored, in most countries the same principles are applied as for bills of exchange. In Germany, however, there are some variations. For instance, in the case of a check a personal declaration may be substituted for protest. The protesting of a draft is permitted for the draft at maturity and must be done not later than the second working day after the date of maturity. On the other hand, the German check law names no period for protest although the protest should take place before the expiration of the term of presentation. It is therefore desirable that the uniform check law should provide the same remedies in case of checks as for drafts.

I therefore wish to recommend to you, to express the idea, that a unification of legislation relative to checks is not only desirable in the interests of commerce and industry but is likewise possible of realization, and that the principles decided by "Der Deutsche Handelstag" form a good foundation for the unification of check laws. In connection therewith I would ask you to favor an idea presented by the German delegation at the close of the diplomatic conference in regard to the international laws on bills of exchange. Reference was made to the fact that should the nations adopt the law on bills of exchange it would be necessary to have for this international law also an international court which would decide in the last instance on disputes in regard to the international law on bills of exchange and it has been decided that the conference should address the request to the governments of the various States to consider the question whether it would not be possible to create such a universal court of law relative to bills of exchange. I believe that this idea is a very good one inasmuch as only a uniform judiciary can guarantee that the international law on bills of exchange shall be uniformly enforced.

The same reasons which speak for the establishment of a court of law for an international law on bills of exchange would also lead to the creation of a court for the international check law, and I beg of you to express your sentiment in favor of this idea, possibly in the form that the International Congress of Chambers of Commerce ac-

cepts with approval, the idea of creating a court of law for the interpretation of the international laws relative to checks and bills of exchange, and invites the governments to co-operate in its realization.

Gentlemen, I hope that my explanations will have convinced you that the unification of legislation relative to checks is useful and necessary for commerce and industry and that it is possible to attain such uniformity.

But uniformity of rights in matters of bills of exchange and checks cannot be maintained unless sustained and guaranteed by some common jurisdiction.

For this reason the second diplomatic conference has addressed to the national governments which were there represented the request to consider the question whether it would be possible to establish a common jurisdiction for the universal law relative to bills of exchange. And we might add also relative to checks.

And I would ask you, therefore, to express your concurrence in this idea.

I therefore move:

That the Congress of Chambers of Commerce shall resolve,

1. "The unification of legislation relative to checks is not only desirable but possible of attainment. The Congress directs to the various governments the plea to take steps towards such unification through an international conference to be convoked as soon as possible.

2. An essential supplement to the creation of an international law relative to bills of exchange and checks will be the establishment of a court in The Hague which shall decide disputes relative to international law on bills of exchange and checks in the last instance." (*Applause.*)

(*Continuing in English*)

Gentlemen, I have explained that the differences in the laws of the check are not so great that it would be impossible to realize unification. And I hope that even if you are not all in perfect agreement with me, you will at least be in sympathy with the unification of the law of the check. But it is not sufficient that the law of the check and exchange are unified; it is still more necessary that a high court may be established for the interpretation of the questions concerning the unified law of the check and exchange.

M. le Président: M. Apt nous a donc commenté les décisions les plus récentes. Vous savez, messieurs, que cette question du chèque a été traitée à La Haye. On nous demande donc maintenant d'émettre un vœu en faveur de l'unification du chèque et d'une législation qui permettrait que tous les pays puissent être traités de la même façon.

Je donne la parole à l'orateur suivant, M. ALMEIDA, du Brésil.

(*Translation*)

Mr. Apt has commented on the most recent decisions. You know that this question of the check has been treated at The Hague. We are now asked to express a wish in favor of the unification of the check and of legislation which would allow all countries to be treated alike.

I give the floor to the next speaker, Mr. ALMEIDA, of Brazil.

Dr. Candido de Mendes de Almeida, *Official Delegate of the Government of Brazil; Director of the Commercial Museum, Rio de Janeiro*

Messieurs:

Je vous demande la permission de parler en français, parce que ma langue nationale n'est pas reconnue comme langue officielle, et je ne puis pas, après trente jours d'étude de l'anglais, m'exprimer dans cette langue de façon à être compris.

Comme représentant du gouvernement Brésilien, comme représentant aussi de la Fédération des Associations Commerciales du Brésil — les associations commerciales, ce sont des chambres de commerce — nous avons organisé la Fédération des Associations Commerciales

à Rio-de-Janeiro, la capitale — et aussi comme représentant du Conseil des courtiers en marchandises de navires — c'est aussi une organisation des courtiers avec intervention du gouvernement. Ces institutions-là ont un intérêt énorme dans le chèque, parce qu'elles représentent tout le commerce, c'est-à-dire tous ceux qui ont des intérêts dans les relations commerciales. Si j'ai eu le courage de prendre la parole dans cette assemblée si distinguée et si compétente, c'est simplement parce que j'ai voulu, devant ce grand Congrès, où sont réunis les représentants les plus distingués du monde entier, affirmer l'existence du Brésil.

Je vous demande pardon, messieurs, de parler ainsi, mais j'ai lu tous les rapports, et j'ai constaté que l'on y fait des références à des pays, qui sont, certainement, dignes d'être mentionnés, mais des pays qui n'ont pas plus que mon pays, le Brésil, le droit d'être étudiés.

Le Brésil, messieurs, est un pays très malheureux. Il fait des efforts énormes pour être connu, il fait des efforts énormes pour démontrer sa capacité, il fait des efforts énormes pour démontrer son intelligence, il fait des efforts énormes pour démontrer qu'il accompagne, pas à pas, tous les mouvements de la science, tous les mouvements de l'industrie, tous les mouvements du commerce; eh bien! messieurs, on ne trouve pas le nom du Brésil quand on parle des droits des peuples.

Messieurs, le Brésil, c'est le plus grand pays de l'Amérique du Sud. C'est un pays qui a trente-neuf millions de kilomètres carrés, et toutes ses terres sont continues, sont fertiles, sont utiles, sont productives. C'est le pays du café, c'est le pays du caoutchouc; et s'il existe dans le monde une industrie du caoutchouc, ce sont les grandes forêts de l'Amazonie qui ont donné naissance à cette grande industrie, laquelle est à l'heure présente très bien exposée à "l'International Exposition of Rubber," à New-York. C'est du Brésil que sont sorties les semences qui ont produit les grandes cultures de l'Inde, de Ceylan et des autres parties de l'Asie.

Ce grand pays, qui a vingt-deux millions d'habitants, la grande majorité de ses habitants est composée d'hommes blancs, avec une très petite proportion d'indigènes. Partout, on demande si, au Brésil, nous sommes des nègres. Eh bien! je vous l'affirme, sous la responsabilité que j'ai comme représentant de mon gouvernement, sous la responsabilité que j'ai comme représentant de la Fédération des Associations Commerciales du Brésil, je vous l'affirme, nous sommes des descendants des Portugais, des Italiens, des Allemands, des Français et des autres peuples d'Europe.

Je vous l'affirme aussi, nous faisons tous les efforts possibles pour être d'accord avec le mouvement évolutionniste du monde civilisé. Nous sommes les plus grands producteurs de café au monde, nous sommes les plus grands producteurs de caoutchouc, pour ne pas parler d'autres choses.

Pour ne pas retenir trop longtemps votre attention, je vous dirai simplement, que j'ai pris hier, sur cette table, un journal américain, où j'ai eu le plaisir de lire . . .

(Translation)

Gentlemen:

I beg leave to speak in French, because my national tongue is not recognized as an official one, and I cannot after thirty days of study of the English language express myself so as to be understood.

As a representative of the Brazilian Government and of the Federation of Commercial Associations of Brazil, the latter being chambers of commerce — we have organized the Federation of Commercial Associations at Rio de Janeiro, the capital — as representative also of the Brokers' Council in Ship-merchandise, this being also a brokers' organization under government control — I wish to say a few words. These institutions are greatly interested in the check, for they represent the whole commerce, all those who have interest in commercial relations, in Brazil. If I have the courage to speak in so distinguished and so competent an assembly, it is simply because I have wished, in the presence of this great Congress in which the most distinguished representatives of the whole world are united, to assert the existence of Brazil.

I beg your indulgence, gentlemen, if I speak thus, but I have read all the reports and have found references made to countries which are certainly worthy to be mentioned, but which nevertheless have no more right than Brazil to be studied.

Brazil is a very unfortunate country. Her efforts to become known, to demonstrate her capacity, to show her intelligence, to prove that she follows step by step all the movements of science, of industry and of commerce, are very great; and Brazil's name is not even mentioned in connection with the rights of the people.

Brazil, gentlemen, is the greatest country of South America. It has thirty-nine million square kilometers of extent, and all its lands are fertile, utilizable and productive. It is the land of coffee, rubber, and if the world possesses a rubber industry it is due to the great forests of the Amazon, as at present very well shown at the International Rubber Exposition in New York. Out of Brazil came the seeds that have produced the great crops of India, Ceylon and other Asiatic countries.

This great land contains twenty-two million inhabitants, the great majority white, with a very small proportion of natives. It is asked everywhere if we are all colored in Brazil. But I assert upon my responsibility as a Government representative, upon my responsibility as a representative of the Federation of Commercial Associations of Brazil, that we are descendants of Portuguese, Italians, Germans, Frenchmen and other European peoples.

I assure you also that we make all possible efforts to attune ourselves with the evolutionist movement of the civilized world. We are the greatest producers of coffee in the world, the greatest producers of rubber, not to speak of anything else.

I do not wish to monopolize your attention much longer but will tell you simply that yesterday I took from this table an American newspaper, in which I read with pleasure . . .

Une Voix: Chèque — chèque.

(Translation)

A VOICE: Check — Check.

M. le Président: Parlez du chèque.

(Translation)

Speak about the check.

M. Almeida: Je vous demande pardon. Si j'ai fait cette exorde, c'est pour vous démontrer pourquoi nous avons le droit d'être entendus sur la question du chèque. Je lis dans ce journal: "Le Brésil a exporté aux États-Unis pour 128,000,000 de dollars . . ."

(Translation)

I beg your pardon. If I made this diversion, it was to show why we are entitled to be heard on the question of the check. I read in that newspaper: "Brazil has exported into the United States merchandise to the value of \$128,000,000."

Plusieurs Voix: Chèque — Chèque.

(Translation)

SEVERAL VOICES: Check — Check.

M. le Président: Parlons du chèque.

(Translation)

Let us speak of the check.

M. Almeida: Eh bien! messieurs, sur la question du chèque, j'ai le plaisir de vous dire que le Brésil a promulgué, le sept août de cette année, une loi renfermant toutes les aspirations sur le chèque; j'ai le plaisir de vous dire que toutes les aspirations exprimées dans le rapport de M. Apt sont déjà incluses dans la loi qui est présentement en force au Brésil. Vingt-deux millions d'hommes ont déjà mis ces choses en pratique.

Sur la question de l'unification du chèque, la loi a déclaré que tous ceux qui auraient des fonds disponibles dans les banques ou entre les mains des commerçants — et c'est là le point intéressant — j'ai lu dans les rapports qu'il y a une grande discussion pour savoir si le chèque doit être tiré seulement contre les banques et les associations similaires. — Au Brésil, on a eu l'idée de faciliter la circulation du chèque et en même temps de le garantir d'une façon complète.

Vous savez, messieurs, que ces pays nouveaux n'ont pas autant de facilités pour la circulation du numéraire; alors, ils ont besoin de faciliter la circulation du papier qui représente l'argent; mais en même temps, ils ont l'obligation de garantir cette circulation, de façon que le commerce n'ait pas de surprises ni de déceptions.

Eh bien! nous avons établi, à l'article premier de la loi, que le chèque pourrait être tiré contre les banques et contre les commerçants. Mais, naturellement, cette expression, "commerçants," est liée à nos transactions commerciales; c'est-à-dire que le commerçant, dans le sens de la loi, est celui qui s'est enregistré convenablement selon les lois respectives.

La loi établit aussi la signification du mot "fonds." Qu'est-ce que l'on entend par fonds? Il y a d'abord les sommes existantes en comptes courants "banquiers." Relativement à ces fonds-là, il n'y a pas d'autre exigence. Là où il y a un compte courant "banquier," on peut tirer le chèque sans aucune autre considération. Dans le cas d'un compte courant contractuel, ou de l'ouverture d'un crédit, pour tirer par chèque sur ces deux espèces de sommes dues, il faut le consentement du tiré.

La loi sur la capacité active est conforme aux règles générales du droit civil. Celui qui jouit de tous ses droits civils a la capacité active pour tirer.

Relativement à la capacité passive, je vous ai déjà expliqué la différence que fait la loi entre les banques et les commerçants.

Quant à la forme du chèque, notre loi est conforme aux aspirations exprimées dans le rapport de M. Apt. Notre loi, qui n'est pas une aspiration, mais une loi écrite et en force, exige le mot "chèque," écrit en portugais, — c'est notre langue — ou l'équivalent en toute autre langue. Elle exige ensuite le nom de la raison sociale ou de la personne qui doit payer. Elle exige encore — et c'est une question qui a été très discutée — l'indication du lieu du paiement. Il ne suffit pas d'indiquer le nom de la banque, il faut indiquer la branche de cette banque sur laquelle on tire — parce qu'une banque peut avoir plusieurs branches, à différents endroits. Pour que le chèque soit exigible, selon notre loi, il faut que l'on indique très précisément l'endroit où doit être payé le chèque. Cette exigence de notre loi, l'indication précise de l'endroit du paiement, est la réalisation de l'une de vos aspirations.

Notre loi établit aussi — et en cela, elle innove sur toutes les autres lois que j'ai vues — que le chèque, pour être chèque, doit être à vue. Elle dit que le tiré, qui reçoit un chèque mutilé, un chèque déchiré, un chèque portant de grosses taches d'encre, avec des dates suspectes, avec des corrections, peut exiger des explications, et même des garanties. Cela, c'est une nouveauté. J'en fais la mention, ce sera peut-être utile.

(Translation)

Well, Gentlemen, as regards the check, I am pleased to say that Brazil has promulgated, August 7th of this year, a law containing all her ideas concerning the check, and I am pleased to say that all these aspirations expressed in Mr. Apt's report are already included in the law which is now enforced in Brazil. Twenty-two million men have already put these things into practice.

As regards the unification of the check, the law applies to all persons who have deposits which they can make use of, in banks or in the hands of traders — and that is

the interesting point. I read in the reports that a great discussion is going on to find out if a check should be drawn only on the banks and equivalent associations. In Brazil we had the good idea of facilitating the circulation of the check and guaranteeing it at the same time in a thorough manner.

You know, gentlemen, that these new countries have not as many facilities for the circulation of cash; they need therefore to facilitate the circulation of paper representing money. But at the same time they have the obligation of guaranteeing this circulation in such a way as not to cause fraud or deceptions, commercially.

We have established, article first of the law, that the check can be drawn on the banks and on the merchants. But naturally this expression, "merchant," is connected with our commercial transactions; that is to say, the merchant, in the eyes of the law, is a person properly registered.

Thus the law defines also the meaning of the word "funds." What are funds? We have in the first place such sums as exist in running accounts "banquères." Regarding these funds, nothing else is exacted. Where a running account "banquère" exists, a check may be drawn without any further consideration. In case of a running account covering a contract or the opening of a credit, in order to draw a check against two such sorts of obligations, the consent of the drawee is required.

The law on active capacity is in accord with the general clauses of the civil law. Whoever enjoys all his civil rights is capable of drawing.

Concerning the passive capacity, I have already explained to you the difference the law makes between banks and merchants.

Regarding the form of check, our law agrees with the tenets expressed in Mr. Apt's report. Our law which is not merely an aspiration but is written and in force, demands the word "check," written in Portuguese, our tongue, or the equivalent in some other language. It demands besides the name of the firm or of the person that will have to pay. It also demands, and this question has been very much discussed, the indication of the place where the payment is to be effected. It is not enough to indicate the name of the bank, the branch of that bank on which one draws must be indicated by name, because a bank may have several branches at different places. A check to be demandable according to our law must bear very precisely the name of the place in which the check is to be paid. This demand of our law, namely, the precise indication of the place of the payment, is the realization of one of your aspirations.

Our law also establishes, and this is an innovation on all other laws I have seen, that the check must be at sight. It says that the drawee who receives a mutilated check, or a torn one, or one bearing big ink-spots, or suspicious dates or corrections, may demand explanations and even guaranties. This is an innovation, and I mention it, because it may be found useful.

M. le Président: Comme documentation.

(Translation)

As a document.

M. Almeida: Oui. Je suppose qu'il n'est pas nécessaire d'entrer dans plus d'explications et de détails. J'ai fait traduire toute notre loi en français et en anglais, et elle sera introduite dans les travaux du Congrès.

(Translation)

Yes. I suppose that it is not necessary to enter into more explanations or details. I have had a translation made of our law into French and English, and it will be introduced in the work of the Congress.

M. le Président: Nous verserons donc la loi Brésilienne au dossier comme documentation. Cette loi, étant la réalisation des aspirations du Congrès, est très intéressante.

(Translation)

We shall deposit then the Brazilian Law among the official papers as a document. The law, being a realization of the aspirations of the Congress, is very interesting.

M. le Président: Messieurs, je profite de l'occasion pour vous faire quelques petites communications.

Vous savez tous que l'on se propose de prendre la photographie des membres du Congrès à la sortie de la séance de ce matin, vraisemblablement vers midi et demi. L'annonce en a été faite au concert d'hier soir, je vous la répète.

Je suis prié de vous faire savoir que, par invitation spéciale de M. A. Lawrence Lowell, les délégués qui désirent visiter l'Université de Harvard peuvent se joindre à une société qui quittera l'hôtel cet après-midi, de suite après la prise de la photographie.

La dernière communication que j'ai à faire est celle-ci: Par suite de retards dans la réception des notices officielles et d'erreurs de correspondances, qui ont été en dehors du contrôle de la Chambre de commerce de Boston, le Congrès n'a pas été informé en temps de la désignation d'un certain nombre de délégués comme représentant des gouvernements. Parmi ceux dont les noms n'ont pas été inclus dans la liste imprimée comme représentant leur gouvernement, se trouvent:

M. ANGELO SALMOIRAGHI, de Milan, qui est membre du comité permanent, et qui est aussi représentant officiel du gouvernement de Sa Majesté le roi d'Italie.

M. G. DI ROSA, consul italien à Boston, qui représente aussi le gouvernement Italien.

Le Dr. LEONHARD HOCHDORF, représentant le gouvernement Autrichien.

Le Dr. EDMUND KUNOSI, représentant le gouvernement Hongrois.

M. ABEL PARDO, consul général de l'Argentine à New-York, représentant la République Argentine.

M. S. TAMURA, vice-président de la Chambre de commerce de Kobe, représentant le Japon.

M. OLOF HJORTH, représentant la Suède.

Évidemment, la Chambre de commerce de Boston s'excuse de ces omissions, bien involontaires, et elle me charge de vous exprimer ses regrets.

S'il y a d'autres délégués représentant leurs gouvernements, la Chambre de commerce de Boston leur serait très reconnaissante de vouloir bien se faire connaître au secrétaire de la Chambre.

M. ALLARD a la parole.

(Translation)

I take advantage of this opportunity to make to you a few announcements.

The delegates are reminded that immediately after this morning's session, as near the hour of half past twelve as possible, the only official photograph of the delegates will be taken. This announcement has been made at the concert yesterday evening and I repeat it to you.

By special invitation of Pres. A. Lawrence Lowell delegates desiring to visit Harvard University may join a party which will leave the hotel this noon immediately after the taking of the official photograph.

On account of delays in the receipt of the official notices and other errors in correspondence which have been outside of the control of the Boston Chamber of Commerce, the Congress has unfortunately not been informed of the appointment of a number of delegates representing governments.

Among those whose names have not been included in the printed list as representing their governments are:

Mr. ANGELO SALMOIRAGHI, of Milan, a member of the Permanent Committee and official representative of the Government of His Majesty the King of Italy.

Mr. G. DI ROSA, Italian Consul in Boston, who also represents the Italian Government.

Dr. LEONHARD HOCHDORF, representing the Austrian Government.

Dr. EDMUND KUNOSI, representing the Hungarian Government.

Mr. ABEL PARDO, Consul General of Argentina at New York, representing the Argentine Republic.

Mr. S. TAMURA, Vice-President of the Kobe Chamber of Commerce, representing Japan.

Mr. OLOF HJORTH, representing Sweden.

The Boston Chamber of Commerce, of course, wishes me to express its regrets for these omissions, entirely involuntary on its part.

If there are other delegates who represent their governments we shall be obliged if they will show their credentials to the Secretary of the Boston Chamber of Commerce in order that their names may be included in the final list.

Mr. ALLARD has the floor.

M. Eugène Allard, *President of the Belgian Chamber of Commerce of Paris*

Messieurs:

Dans un rapport présenté au nom de la Chambre de commerce Belge de Paris, mon éminent collègue, M. H. A. Rau, a indiqué les moyens pratiques pour étendre l'usage du chèque et restreindre les inconvénients et les risques de l'emploi exagéré du numéraire et des billets de banque. S'il ne nous appartient pas de formuler un projet de loi concernant le chèque, il est évident que nous devons à l'heure actuelle émettre notre avis sur la législation la meilleure. Nous sommes précisément dans une situation qui nous permet de préciser, d'une manière approfondie, ce que nous voulons, ce que le commerce mondial exige par l'établissement du chèque.

La conférence de La Haye s'est occupée, vous venez de l'apprendre, de la législation uniforme du chèque pour tous les pays. Je crois qu'elle s'est occupée également de la législation sur le chèque pour tous les pays, les desiderata du commerce mondial; mais je ne sais si la conférence de La Haye a pris pour le chèque les mêmes décisions qu'elle a prises pour la lettre de change.

Nous sommes donc dans l'ignorance la plus complète à ce sujet. Si mes renseignements sont exacts, il paraîtrait que la conférence de La Haye a renvoyé à une séance prochaine l'examen de la législation sur le chèque; mais il est un fait certain, c'est qu'en proposant un projet de législation sur la lettre de change, la conférence de La Haye a bien indiqué ce qu'était une lettre de change. Elle a donc défini la lettre de change. D'ailleurs, toutes les jurisprudences, toutes nos lois donnent bien une définition de la lettre de change. Eh bien! je m'entends: dans le rapport très remarquable présenté par M. Otto Trundler, il fait absolument abandon de cette nécessité, pour nous primordiale, d'une définition du chèque, et nous ne pouvons entièrement partager cet avis, et puisque les rapporteurs recommandent même de faire mention, dans la législation à venir, des conditions principales du chèque, il nous paraît évident que l'une de ces conditions est précisément, au point de vue international et intérieur, que le chèque ne puisse être confondu avec un autre instrument de crédit soumis à des stipulations légales différentes de celles du chèque. Sinon, il est probable que dans la pratique il pourra se présenter et il se présentera certainement des inconvénients et des conflits entre la législation régissant le chèque et celle concernant les autres instruments de crédit.

En effet, si le chèque doit — et c'est là l'esprit qui a présidé au désir général d'une législation internationale sur la matière, — constituer un substitut au numéraire et aux billets de banque, il faut qu'il jouisse autant que possible des conditions qui donnent à ceux-ci la facilité de circulation et de libération pour les paiements auxquels on veut que le chèque puisse servir lui-même.

Dans la revue que font les rapporteurs des définitions du chèque que donne la législation de divers pays, ils ne rappellent que d'une façon générale la définition des pays de langue française. Cependant, parmi ceux-ci, il est intéressant de relever la définition belge, qui est

précise, et que les rapporteurs ont d'ailleurs signalée. Cette définition, d'après nous, est absolument l'image de ce qu'est le chèque. La loi belge de 1875 dit: "Le chèque est une délégation de paiement au comptant et à vue sur des fonds disponibles." Vous voyez comme le chèque se dessaisit de la lettre de change. Eh bien! dans ces conditions-là, je crois que, dans le vœu que nous devons émettre, nous devons demander, nous devons définir exactement ce que nous voulons, et cette définition, nous la donnons par la loi belge.

Si, dans les différents pays ici représentés, il y a une définition meilleure, messieurs, nous sommes tous prêts à nous y rallier. Mais, ne rien dire du tout, laisser cette définition dans l'ombre, eh bien! messieurs, ce n'est pas dire ce que nous voulons.

Maintenant, messieurs, sur les autres points de vue, du rapport de M. Apt: un de mes compatriotes, M. Christophe, et moi, nous sommes absolument d'accord, et je ne voudrais pas retenir plus longtemps le vœu indiquant les différentes nuances que nous pourrions établir. Je ne veux pas abuser de vos instants, je trouve qu'avant tout, nous devons dire ce que nous voulons, et pour le surplus, les détails sont indiqués d'une façon complète, d'une façon magistrale dans les différents rapports dont nous avons eu connaissance. Ces rapports, je ne les analyse pas, mais je vous demande surtout que, dans le vœu que vous allez émettre, que vous allez envoyer à la conférence de La Haye, vous disiez bien ce que vous voulez, et c'est la décision que je vous demande d'adopter.

(Translation)

Gentlemen:

In a report presented in the name of the Belgian Chamber of Commerce of Paris my eminent colleague, Mr. H. A. Rau, has pointed out the practical means for extending the employment of checks and for reducing the inconveniences and risks resulting from the extended use of cash and bank notes. Even though it may not be our part to draft a law relating to checks, it is clear that we should at this time express our opinion as to the best legislation. We are in exactly the position to permit us to state in a thorough manner what we desire and what is required by the world's commerce through the establishment of the check.

The Hague Conference, as you have just learned, has occupied itself with the subject of uniform legislation relative to drafts for all countries. I believe it has also taken up the question of international legislation relative to checks, one of the greatest desires of the world's commerce; but I do not know whether the conference at The Hague has adopted for checks the same rules which it has made for bills of exchange.

We are therefore in entire ignorance on this subject. If I am correctly informed, it appears that The Hague Conference has postponed to a future session the investigation of legislation regarding checks but one point is certain, — that in drawing up a law for bills of exchange The Hague Conference has defined what a bill of exchange is. Moreover, all our jurisprudence, all our laws give a definition of a bill of exchange. In the very valuable report presented by Mr. Otto Trundler he absolutely abandons this requirement which seems to us fundamental for a definition of the check. We cannot entirely share his opinion and even the Reporters themselves recommend that future legislation should mention the principal conditions for the check. It appears to us clear that one of these conditions, both in regard to international and domestic relations, is that the check should not be confounded with some other instrument of credit, subject to different legal stipulations than those for the check. Otherwise it is probable that in practice there might be, and certainly would be, inconveniences and conflicts between the legislation relating to the check and that regulating other instruments of credit.

In fact, if the check — and this is the idea which has inspired the general desire for international legislation on the subject — is to constitute a substitute for cash and bank notes, it must as far as possible answer to the conditions which give these latter their facility for circulation for the purpose of payments for which it is desired to employ the check.

In the summing up made by the Reporters of the definitions of the check given by legislation in different countries they only mention in a general way the definition in the French-speaking countries. Among these, however, it is interesting to take up the Belgian definition, which is, moreover, exactly what the Reporters have described. This definition, it seems to us, is an accurate description of a check and of the powers to be given to it. The Belgian law of 1873 says: "The check is an order to pay in cash and at sight on funds disposable." You see, therefore, how the check distinguishes itself from the bill of exchange. Well, under these conditions I believe that in the resolve which we may adopt, we should ask, we should define exactly what we wish, and this definition we find in the Belgian law.

If, gentlemen, there is among the different countries here represented a better definition, we are prepared to support it. But to say nothing at all, to leave this definition in the dark, does not seem to be saying what we want.

Now, gentlemen, on the other points of the report made by Mr. Apt: one of my compatriots, Mr. Christophe, does not entirely agree with us and I do not wish to delay the vote further by pointing out the different modifications which we might make. I do not wish to abuse your time. I think, though, that above all we should say what we want, and for the rest, the details are expressed in a very complete and masterly fashion in the different reports which we have heard. I will not analyze these reports but will ask again that in the resolve which you are about to adopt, which you will send to the conference at The Hague, you state clearly what you want, and this is the decision which I ask you to reach.

M. le Président: La parole est à M. CHARLES CHRISTOPHE.

(Translation)

Mr. CHARLES CHRISTOPHE has the floor.

M. Charles Christophe, *Secretary of the "Cercle Commercial et Industriel" of Ghent; Secretary of the International Federation of Flax-Spinners' Associations*

Messieurs:

Le Cercle Commercial et Industriel de Gand a fait connaître toutes ses vues au sujet de la question du chèque en distribuant aux membres du Congrès un projet complet d'une loi uniforme sur le chèque, élaboré, au nom de sa section juridique, par M. Rolin, professeur à l'Université de Gand et secrétaire de l'Institut de droit international. Il espère que cette contribution au travail de documentation entrepris sur l'initiative de notre comité permanent, méritera l'attention de la conférence de La Haye chargée d'établir le projet définitif d'une loi uniforme sur les chèques.

Au nom du groupe que je représente ici, je crois toutefois devoir déclarer expressément que je ne puis partager l'avis de MM. les rapporteurs Apt et Trumpler et du "Deutschen Handelstag," affirmant l'inutilité d'une définition du chèque. À présent qu'une loi uniforme sur la lettre de change va être mise en vigueur dans la plupart des pays, il convient de marquer nettement et succinctement, dans la loi uniforme projetée, en quoi le chèque diffère de la lettre de change. Il importe avant tout d'éviter que les chèques ne se transforment en lettres de change marquées et ne perdent leur caractère essentiel, qui sera toujours d'être un mode de paiement.

Je me rallie donc aux observations présentées par M. Rau comme complément de son remarquable rapport, au sujet de la nécessité d'une définition du chèque. Au surplus, le "Deutsche Handelstag" lui-même, après avoir affirmé l'inutilité d'une définition (déclaration No. 1) s'attache ensuite à délimiter d'une façon très précise les conditions essentielles du chèque. Sur ces conditions, d'ailleurs, l'accord pourra se faire très facilement.

Que doit être, maintenant, cette définition du chèque? C'est la conférence de La Haye,

qui a mission de l'établir. Je terminerai par une seule remarque à ce sujet. La définition que propose M. Rau, c'est-à-dire celle de la loi belge du 20 juin 1873, présente en effet des avantages.

"Le chèque, dit le législateur belge, est une délégation de paiement au comptant et à vue sur des fonds disponibles." Notons bien que dans ses explications sur ce qu'il faut entendre par fonds disponibles lors de l'émission du chèque, le rapporteur de la loi à la chambre belge a été extrêmement large: il y a, à son sens, des fonds disponibles chez le tiré dès que celui-ci, sans être débiteur du tireur, l'a autorisé à disposer de certains fonds chez lui. Cela devrait évidemment suffire, mais il est bon de le dire clairement.

Il semble, dès lors, possible de concilier facilement la notion belge du chèque avec la notion anglaise, résultat qu'il faut chercher à atteindre, puisque cette dernière notion est, au point de vue mondial, la plus répandue.

Pour ne pas parler comme l'a fait tout à l'heure le délégué du Brésil, je tiens à dire que la Belgique, tout en étant un petit pays, tient beaucoup à faire entendre sa voix dans toutes les questions, aussi bien économiques que législatives.

(Translation)

Gentlemen:

The "Cercle Commercial et Industriel" of Ghent has expressed all its views on the question of checks by handing to each member of the Congress a complete scheme of a uniform law of checks, framed on behalf of its juridical section, by Mr. Rolin, professor in the University of Ghent and secretary of the International Law Institute. It hopes that this contribution to the work of documentation undertaken on the initiative of our Permanent Committee will be worthy of receiving attention from The Hague Conference, trusted with the elaboration of a definitive scheme of a uniform law of checks.

In the name of the group of which I am here the representative, I, however, believe it my duty to declare expressly that I cannot be of the same opinion as the Committee Reporters, Messrs. Apt and Trumpler, and as "Der Deutsche Handelstag," who assert the uselessness of a definition of the check. Now that a uniform law relating to the bill of exchange is to be enforced in the majority of countries, it is convenient to determine clearly and concisely, in the uniform law which is to be planned, in what respect the check differs from the bill of exchange. It is first of all necessary to avoid having checks transformed into disguised bills of exchange, and so losing their essential character, that of being a mode of payment.

Therefore, I join with the observations presented by Mr. Rau as a complement to his remarkable report, about the necessity of a definition of the check. Besides, "Der Deutsche Handelstag" itself, after having stated the uselessness of a definition (Declaration No. I) proceeds to undertake to limit the essential conditions of the check. Moreover, on these conditions, the agreement may be concluded very easily.

What must, then, be this definition of the check? It is the Conference of The Hague which has been entrusted to fix it. I am going to conclude with one single remark on this subject. The definition which Mr. Rau proposes, that is to say, the definition given by the Belgian law of June 20, 1873, has indeed some advantages.

"The check," says the Belgian legislator, "is a delegation of payment, in cash and at sight, on available funds." We must not fail to note that, in his explanation of what we must understand by available funds at the time the check is issued, the reporter of the law in the Belgian Parliament has been very liberal; according to him, there are available funds at the drawee's as soon as the latter, without being a debtor of the drawer, has allowed him to draw upon him for certain funds. This, evidently, ought to be sufficient, but it is convenient to point it out clearly.

It seems, then, possible to make agree the Belgian notion of the check with the English one, a result that we must strive to attain, as the English notion is most widely put in practice.

Although, I do not wish to speak as the delegate from Brazil has just done, I insist that Belgium, although a small country, thinks a great deal of participating in all questions, both economic and legislative.

M. le President: Monsieur Christophe, vos observations ont porté surtout sur la définition. C'est un des détails. Évidemment, si nous entrons dans la discussion des détails, quand nous aurons parlé de la définition du chèque, nous parlerons du tireur. Tout de même je partage vos observations, mais je pense que vous ne devez pas entrer dans cette voie. Je demande au Congrès de prendre une décision que nous sommes ici simplement pour voter sur le point de savoir s'il est désirable d'avoir l'unification du chèque. Il est évident qu'on tiendra bon compte de vos observations dans les procès-verbaux, mais je pense que je ne puis pas demander au Congrès de voter sur une question de détails. Nous serions absolument débordés et perdus.

La parole est à M. F. FAITHFULL BEGG.

(Translation)

Mr. Christophe, your remarks have all referred to the definitions. This is one of the details. Clearly, if we enter into the discussion of details, after we have talked over the definition of the check, we should also discuss the drawer. At the same time I appreciate your remarks, but I think that it would be better not to enter on this track. I will ask the Congress to adopt the decision that we are here solely to vote on this point: Is it desirable to have the unification of the check? It is of course understood that due record will be made of your remarks in the proceedings, but I do not think that I can ask the Congress to vote on a question of details. We should be absolutely overwhelmed and lost.

Mr. F. FAITHFULL BEGG has the floor.

Mr. F. Faithfull Begg, *Chairman of the Council of the London Chamber of Commerce*

Mr. President and Gentlemen:

I agree very largely with the speaker who has just addressed you. The point of his remarks, if I got it, was this, that when you come to the question of dealing with checks you must not import into the character of the check any of the complicated matters which pertain to a bill of exchange, but that you must keep in view the fact that your check must be the simplest, the most negotiable, the most easily handled and dealt-with document that you can possibly devise. (*"Hear, hear!" and applause.*) You must simplify, and you must not complicate.

In England — and in London particularly, where I come from — we have some experience in the use of checks. (*Laughter.*) If I were to give you the figures — which I cannot, because I do not remember them — of the number and amount of checks which pass through the London clearing house in one day, some of you, at all events, would be astonished. I go so far as to say that if you attempt to introduce into the question of checks the complications which are suggested or laid down in this paper, you will nullify your efforts and you will make no progress. (*"Hear, hear!" and applause.*) I say to you deliberately that if our system of checks in London were to be subjected to the conditions that are laid down in this summary, the business of London would stop (*"right"*), and we could not make any progress with our work.

Therefore, I am sorry to say that there are points, several points, to which my Chamber, the London Chamber, cannot under any circumstances agree. We must be understood as dissenting, and, if you will allow me, I will in the briefest manner refer to these points.

The first point on which I would say a word is point No. II in the document which has been circulated this morning. It says that the check should only be drawn on a banker. Now I will put a conundrum to you. What is a banker? We have endeavored to define

"banker" in England, and we have failed. We have suggested legislation on the subject, and it has been impossible, because we cannot define "banker," and if you cannot define "banker" in England, let me ask you how you are going to define "banker" on the Continent, or how you are going to define "banker" in the United States, where so many gentlemen of honorable disposition carry on the business of so-called banking, — and it is banking of a sort, but it is not banking in any strict sense that could be laid down in an act of parliament regulating this matter.

The second point to which I wish to refer is in No. III, referring to optional particulars which might be put in a check. I am afraid that that might mean that these particulars would be insisted upon, and the first statement I notice here is "Statement of the funds standing to the credit of drawer." (*Laughter.*) Now, gentlemen, from my point of view that is absolutely impossible. ("*Hear, hear!*" and a voice, "*We would like to know it!*" followed by *laughter.*) I may not even know it myself, as I am going to explain to you in a moment. (*Laughter.*) It was suggested by the last speaker that if he had an authority upon his banker to draw that might be a sufficient provision to fulfil the condition.

Let me tell you in a sentence what my own practice is. I am a member of the London stock exchange. We have fortnightly settlements — what you call on the Continent "liquidations." On the day of the session we have all the transactions of the fortnight to carry through. What do we do? My cashier sends the documents that have been presented, have been examined and are in order, takes the certification of the clerk, and draws a check. He brings the checks all day, and, Mr. President, the last thing I think of is, how much money I have got in the bank. (*Laughter.*) I do not begin to think of that until three or half past three o'clock. Then they bring me a statement showing how much is wanted. If we are short, we go to the bank and borrow the money; if we are over — which frequently happens, you know (*laughter*), — we go home to dinner happy. (*Laughter.*)

That is the universal practice in London, and not only is it the practice but it is a law of the stock exchange in London that a broker must issue a check, even if he does not think he is able to pay it, or may not be able to pay it. He must give a check, because the man presenting must have his document. If at the end of the day he fails, that cannot be helped, but it is his duty to issue the check in order that the transaction may be carried through.

Therefore, I say, any statement of the funds standing to the credit of the drawer is impossible. I couldn't tell how much I had, and wouldn't wish to know how much I had, to my credit at any particular moment.

In regard to point No. VII, as to the time allowed for presentation. I will state the situation on that matter with us, as a matter of practice. The time has been reduced in practice to three months, but I think it would be a wrong thing to lay down any fixed or hard and fast rule in regard to that.

Point No. VIII: It is suggested there that the drawee require a receipt. "As to payment, it will be necessary to stipulate that the drawee can require a receipt." That means a duplicating or doubling, if insisted on, of the number of documents to be handled, because each check has to be accompanied by a receipt. I do not quite see how it is to be worked out. It comes under my heading of complications. You are going to double the number of documents and going to introduce congestion, when you ought to have simplicity.

Point No. IX: "The countermanding of a check should not be permitted until after the time allowed for presentation has elapsed." I see that by the German law that is a matter of ten days. That again, gentlemen, is impracticable. The drawer of a check may find within five minutes after having issued it that he has been swindled. ("*Hear, hear!*") In practice with us I am at liberty to send over to my banker and stop payment on the instant I discover that I have been taken in. ("*Hear, hear!*") Here again you must not introduce complexity; you must introduce simplicity into your practice.

I have a practical suggestion to conclude with, and the practical suggestion, sir, is this: that a small committee representing this Congress should be appointed to come over to London and spend a few weeks examining our clearing-house system and our manner of handling

checks. We will be very polite with that committee; we will undertake to look after them while in London and give them all the information in our power, and I am sure they will agree with me after they have had that information that these complications are impossible, and that if you attempt to introduce the complications to which I have referred you will stultify your proceedings and negative your action. (*Applause.*)

M. le Président: Il est intéressant d'avoir les échanges de vues. Il est évident que M. Apt a une opinion; M. Christophe nous en a donné une autre; M. Begg vient de nous en donner une autre encore. Maintenant, messieurs, pas de détails. Je pense que tout le monde est d'accord pour dire qu'il est désirable d'avoir l'unification du chèque de tous les pays; c'est en somme la seule chose qu'on demande au Congrès.

La parole est à M. MAX RICHTER.

(*Translation*)

It is interesting to have exchanges of views. It is evident that Mr. Apt has one opinion; Mr. Christophe has given us another; Mr. Begg has just given us still another. Now, gentlemen, no details. I think that everybody is agreed that it is desirable to have a unification of the check in all countries; that is, after all, the only thing that is asked of the Congress.

Mr. MAX RICHTER has the floor.

Herr Max Richter. *Member of "Die Ältesten der Kaufmannschaft von Berlin"*

Nach den Erklärungen des Herrn Präsidenten könnte ich eigentlich auf das Wort verzichten. Wir haben gesehen, daß bei der Beratung der Einzelheiten durchweg verschiedene Meinungen auftreten. Das haben wir schon gesehen bei der Nr. I, worin gesagt ist, daß davon abgesehen werden soll, eine Definition des Schecks zu geben. Dieser Vorschlag steht zum Beispiel dem deutschen Scheckrechte direkt entgegen, welches mit dem belgischen Scheckrechte übereinstimmt, und das belgische Scheckrecht hat zweifellos eine vorzügliche Erklärung darüber, was ein Scheck darstellen soll. In gleicher Weise ist das deutsche Recht bisher ausgeführt gewesen.

Meine Herren, in England und bei den englisch-sprechenden Nationen, wie in Amerika, existiert keine Erklärung darüber, was ein Scheck darstellen soll. Dieses betreffend, hat man naturgemäß, namentlich mit Rücksicht darauf, daß man in England, London, einige Erfahrungen im Scheckverkehr hat — wie Herr Begg soeben sagte — darauf verzichtet, eine Deklaration des Schecks zu geben.

So geht die Sache weiter, und wenn wir jeden einzelnen der Punkte durchberaten müssen, so müssen wir unseren Kongreß verlängern. Deshalb trete ich der Ansicht unseres Herrn Präsidenten bei und meine, daß wir uns darauf beschränken, hier einfach zu erklären als einstimmige Meinung aller hier vertretenen Nationen, daß versucht werden soll, ein einheitliches Scheckrecht für den Welthandel zu schaffen.

(*Translation*)

After the explanations of the President it may be scarcely necessary for me to take the floor. We have seen during the consideration of details that many different opinions are represented. This was already noted in the discussion of item I which states that no attempt should be made to give a definition of the check. This proposal is for instance directly opposed to the German check law, which agrees with the Belgian check law, so that the Belgian check law doubtless contains an express declaration as to what shall constitute a check. The German law has been hitherto enforced in this manner.

In England and among the English-speaking nations, as the United States, there is no regulation as to the form of the check. In regard to this, it was natural enough, — in view of the experience in England, London, as Mr. Begg has just said, — that they refrained from giving a definition of the check.

And so it goes, and if we must debate each individual point we should be obliged to prolong our Congress. For this reason I agree with the view of our President and am of the opinion that we should limit ourselves to simply stating as the unanimous opinion of all nations represented here that an attempt should be made to create a uniform check law for international business.

Dr. Soetbeer (*Berlin*): Ich möchte nur ein Mißverständnis aufklären gegenüber dem verehrten Herrn aus London, das sich auf Nummer III bezieht, wo es heißt: "The check might also contain optional particulars such as: Statement of the funds standing to the credit of drawer." Der Herr hat es so verstanden, daß dort die Summe des Guthabens stehen sollte. Das ist nicht die Meinung. Wenn das die Meinung wäre, würde ich es ebenso komisch und lächerlich finden, wie die Herren aus England. Die Meinung des deutschen Vorschlags ist lediglich die, daß es nicht nötig, aber zugelassen sei, in dem Scheck zu sagen: Zahlen Sie auf mein Guthaben. Das ist die ganze Bedeutung dieser Sache, nicht der Betrag des Guthabens.

(*Translation*)

I wish to clear away a misunderstanding on the part of the gentleman from London in regard to item III, which reads: "The check might also contain optional particulars such as: Statement of the fund standing to the credit of drawer." The gentleman has understood that this was intended to mean the indication of the amount of the funds. This is not the meaning. Were this the intention I should myself consider it as comical and absurd as do the gentlemen from England. The intention of the German proposal is simply that it is not essential, but is permissible to state on the check: Pay from my funds. This is the whole intention of this clause, and it does not refer to the amount of the balance.

(*Dr. Soetbeer continued in English as follows:*)

I shall endeavor to say in English for the gentlemen who do not understand German, that the sense of No. III, which was questioned by the honorable gentleman from London, was not that the "statement of funds standing to the credit of the drawer" should give the amount of the funds, but only that funds or money are to the credit of the man who draws the check.

Mr. Begg: Am I entitled to explain, sir? What I mean is this — that there should be no stipulation that there should be funds; that I should be entitled to draw at my own risk, whether I have funds or not.

Dr. Soetbeer: Yes, sir, I should say it should be an optional particuilar.

The President: Optional.

Dr. Soetbeer: If a man is of your opinion he may get caught.

Mr. Begg: All right.

M. le Président: Ces questions sont donc des questions de détail. Nous restons devant le principe de l'unification du chèque.

Toutes les observations qui ont été présentées sont intéressantes les unes et les autres, et nous en arrivons donc à cette conclusion que nous devons nous prononcer sur le fait de savoir s'il est désirable de voir établir l'unification de la loi sur le chèque.

M. ART a demandé la parole pour quelques derniers mots.

(*Translation*)

These questions are, after all, questions of detail. The question which we have before us is the principle of the unification of the check. All the observations which have been presented are interesting, and we come now to the conclusion that we ought to pass upon the question whether it is desirable to establish the unification of the law of checks.

Mr. ART has asked the floor for a few closing words.

Dr. Max Apt (*Berlin*)

Ich möchte noch einmal zum Ausdruck bringen, was bereits in dem Bericht geschehen ist, daß die Leitsätze des Handelstags Ihnen nicht vorgelegt worden sind, damit Sie sie hier in den Einzelheiten annehmen, sondern lediglich als ein Ausdruck derjenigen Ansichten, die man in Deutschland über diese Frage hat. Es ist ganz selbstverständlich und war auch vorausgesehen worden, daß man in anderen Ländern eine verschiedene Auffassung hat, und es war außerordentlich wertvoll, diese verschiedenen Auffassungen hier zu hören, und ich bin überzeugt, daß wenn die diplomatische Staaten-Konferenz demnächst oder im nächsten Jahre zusammengerufen wird, um diese Scheckfrage zu Ende zu führen, daß dann die Bedenken, die hier in Bezug auf die Einzelheiten geäußert worden sind, ihre Berücksichtigung finden werden. Auch ist es, wie das bei dem Weltwechselrecht geschehen ist, bei allen diesen Fragen so, daß, um die Einheitlichkeit eines derartigen Gesetzes durchzuführen, bei den einzelnen Punkten Vorbehalte für die einzelnen Regierungen gemacht werden, damit die Einzelregierungen in der Lage sind, trotz der Vereinheitlichung des ganzen Gesetzes ihre Rechtsauffassung durchzuführen. Infolgedessen bitte ich Sie, über dieser Erörterung der Einzelheiten den Haupt Gesichtspunkt nicht aus dem Auge zu lassen, der dahin geht, daß diese Vereinheitlichung der Scheckrechte nicht nur wünschenswert, sondern bei gutem Willen durchführbar ist. Infolgedessen werde ich mich beschränken, lediglich unter Nr. I den Satz zur Abstimmung bringen zu lassen, daß die Vereinheitlichung der Scheckrechte nicht nur wünschenswert, sondern auch durchführbar ist. Dagegen möchte ich Sie bitten, außerdem noch der Idee Ihre Sympathie zum Ausdruck zu bringen, daß ein Weltgerichtshof geschaffen werden kann für die Auslegung der Fragen des Wertscheckrechts und Weltwechselrechts in letzter Instanz.

(*Translation*)

I wish to emphasize once more that which has already been laid stress upon in the report, — that is to say, that the fundamental propositions of the "Handelstag" have not been submitted to you in order that you should accept them here in all their details, but merely as an expression of those views which are entertained in Germany concerning this question. It is quite self-evident and has been foreseen, that in other countries a conviction of a different character would exist, and it was extremely valuable to hear those various convictions; and I feel convinced that when the diplomatic conference of the States will be called together soon, perhaps in the coming year, in order to bring to a successful end the question of checks, that then the doubt which has been expressed here as regards these various details will be taken into proper consideration. Moreover, all this has also been done in the case of the international law on bills of exchange. It is to be expected that, in carrying to a successful end a uniform law, the various governments may make certain reservations as regards single points in order that the individual governments may be in a position to carry out their idea as to interpretation or judicial principle in spite of the unification of the entire law. In consequence thereof I would request you that when discussing the details you do not lose sight of the principal point, and that point is that this unification of the check law is not only highly desirable but can be carried out provided there is a desire to do so. In consequence thereof I shall confine myself under No. I, solely to the resolution that the unification of the check law is not only desirable but is also a thing that can be actually carried into effect. On the other hand, I would request that besides that you also express your sympathy with the idea that there can be created an international court for the interpretation of questions of the universal check law and the universal law of bills of exchange as the court of last resort.

M. le Président: Il y a donc deux points sur lesquels je désire consulter l'assemblée. Le premier point est celui-ci, sur lequel tout le monde semble d'accord: l'unification de la loi sur le chèque est désirable. Je vous consulte. Ceux qui sont d'avis d'adopter cette motion

telle que présentée, levez la main. (*Levée de mains générale.*) L'épreuve contraire. (*Personne ne lève la main.*) Il n'y a pas d'opposition.

(*Translation*)

There are two points upon which I desire to consult the meeting. The first point is this, upon which every one seems to be agreed, that the unification of legislation relative to checks is desirable. I put the motion. Those in favor of adopting the motion as made, will please raise their hands. (*General raising of hands.*) Contrary minded? (*No hands raised.*) There is no opposition.

Un Délégué: Seulement, je ne suis pas sûr que tout le monde ait compris ce que vous avez dit.

(*Translation*)

A DELEGATE: I am not quite sure that every one understood what you said.

Mr. Otto Münsterberg (*Danzig, Germany*): I am not quite sure, gentlemen, if you have all understood what Mr. President said. ("No.") That is what I thought. The President said that we shall be unanimous, very likely, upon the first motion which has been laid before you — that we are all unanimous on the resolution that it is desirable to have a unity of the law of checks for the whole world. I believe we are absolutely unanimous. That is all I wished to explain.

Mr. R. H. Curry (*Nassau, Bahamas*): Mr. President, do I understand that the remarks made by the gentleman representing the London Chamber of Commerce go for nothing? How will he have the right to make an amendment after we agree to this?

Mr. Begg: We do not agree.

M. le Président: Nous n'avons pas à entrer dans les détails; c'est la question générale. Les Allemands ont une façon de comprendre les choses, les Anglais en ont une autre, mais au-dessus de tout cela, je puis vous demander: Êtes-vous d'avis qu'il est désirable d'avoir l'unification d'une loi sur les chèques? C'est la question de principe, n'est-ce pas?

(*Translation*)

We have not got to enter into details; it is the general question. The Germans have one way of understanding things, the Englishmen have another, but above all that I could ask you, are you of the opinion that a law on the unification of checks is desirable? That is the question of principle, is it not?

Plusieurs Voix: Oui, oui, oui.

(*Translation*)

SEVERAL VOICES: Yes, yes, yes.

M. Begg: Le principe général, mais pas de détails.

(*Translation*)

The general principle, but no details.

M. le Président: Sommes-nous d'accord? Il n'y a pas de malentendu?

(*Translation*)

Are we agreed? Is there no misunderstanding?

Plusieurs Voix: Oui, oui.

(*Translation*)

SEVERAL VOICES: Yes, yes.

M. le Président: L'épreuve contraire. (*Personne ne lève la main.*) Adopté à l'unanimité. Maintenant, il y a un second point proposé par M. Apt.

(*Translation*)

Those opposed? (*No hands are raised.*) Adopted unanimously.

Now, there is a second point offered by Mr. Apt.

(*Reading in English*)

"A necessary complement to the creation of a universal law on bills of exchange and checks is the creation of a high court at The Hague which will decide as a court of last appeal controversies regarding questions involving the universal law of bills of exchange and checks."

This is another proposition.

Mr. Münsterberg: Well, Gentlemen, the second proposition has been read in English, French and German. To prevent misunderstanding, I will read in English what has been proposed in the report of Mr. Apt:

"I have explained that the differences in the laws of the check are not so great that it will be impossible to realize the unification. And I hope that even if you are not all in perfect agreement with me, at least I hope you will be in sympathy with the unification of the law of the check. But it is not sufficient that the laws of the check and exchange are unified, it is still more necessary that a high court may be established for the interpretation of the questions concerning the unified laws of the check and exchange."

That has reference to the present court, the tribunal at The Hague, and the Reporter, Mr. Apt, wishes that the Congress express its consent that the same tribunal, the court of arbitration, should be as well for checks as for letters of exchange, drafts, liquidations. That is what is proposed now.

M. le Président: La proposition de M. Apt en second lieu, je vais la mettre en français: "Il y aurait un tribunal qui serait en quelque sorte une cour d'appel pour les procès relatifs à la fois aux lettres de change et aux chèques." Voilà l'idée de M. Apt. Tout le monde a donc bien compris. Que ceux qui sont d'avis d'adopter ce vœu — c'est un vœu — veulent bien lever la main. (*Lévé de mains des délégués.*) L'épreuve contraire. (*Lévé de mains de certains délégués.*)

(*Translation*)

I will put into French Mr. Apt's second proposition: "That there should be a tribunal which would be in a way a court of appeals for suits concerning at the same time bills of exchange and checks." That is Mr. Apt's idea. It is well understood by all. Those who favor the wish, for it is a wish, please raise their hand. (*Raising of hands of the delegates.*) Those opposed please raise the hand. (*Raising of hands of some delegates.*)

Mr. Münsterberg: Gentlemen, I believe there is again a misunderstanding. I do not think we ought to vote for such a question simply by a majority. I see that our English friends, for instance, unanimously are against this point, and to my mind it would be useless to adopt such a resolution here if such a powerful body of men of business as those of England, the whole British Empire, were against it. So I think it would better not to take a vote at all on the second point. (*"Hear, hear!" and applause.*) We have expressed ourselves, and we have talked about the matter, and now I think we ought to leave it alone and say we are satisfied to have the first point arranged — that is, unanimously adopted, — and leave the second point for the future, and hope that what we have said ourselves here between each other will tend to the general adoption of such a tribunal, the Court of Arbitration at The Hague, or whatever it may be.

Dr. Soetbeer (Berlin): Ich möchte noch einmal das Wort ergreifen, um zu erklären, daß auch unter den deutschen Delegierten die Meinungen über diesen Punkt auseinandergehen, den Punkt, der bei uns nicht studiert worden ist und darauf hinausläuft, daß wir einen Teil der Rechtsfrage, eine Abzweigung eines Teils der Rechtssprechung an einen internationalen Gerichtshof stattfinden lassen. Ich würde es auch für wünschenswert halten, wenn dieser Antrag zurückgezogen würde, und man sich auf die Abstimmung beschränkte, die wir soeben vorgenommen haben.

(Translation)

I would like to make a further statement, which is, that opinions differ also among the German delegates on this point, which has not been studied by us, and the effect of which is to transfer to an international court a part of the legal proceedings, or, as it were, a branch of the judicature. I would also consider it desirable that this motion should be withdrawn and that the Congress should confine itself to the vote which has just been taken.

Mr. Thomas (Paris): I wish to submit that the vote had already been taken before the last speaker addressed the meeting. I also want to say that the American delegates — at least the American delegates from Paris — identify themselves unreservedly with what Mr. Faithfull Begg has said, and with the voice of the British delegates.

Dr. Apt (Berlin): Für die deutschen Delegierten möchte ich nur eins sagen: die Idee, daß, wenn ein Weltwechselrecht gemacht wird, dann auch ein Gerichtshof eingerichtet wird, der in letzter Instanz da ist, um Streitfragen über dieses Weltwechsel- und Weltcheckrecht zu entscheiden, dieser Gedanke ist von der deutschen Delegation aus der Haager Weltwechselrecht-Konferenz angeregt worden, und die Haager Weltwechselrecht-Konferenz hat einstimmig beschlossen, daß diese Frage von den einzelnen Regierungen geprüft werden soll. Was ich will, ist nichts weiter als daß dieser Kongreß allgemein seine Sympathie für die Einrichtung eines derartigen Gerichtshofes ausspreche, für den Fall, daß eine Vereinheitlichung des Weltwechsel- und Scheckrechts gemacht wird, und ich glaube, der Handelsstand hat ja gar keinen Grund, gegen einen derartigen Gerichtshof einzutreten, der nur die Garantie bieten soll für die richtige Durchführung des Weltwechsel- und Scheckrechts.

(Translation)

On behalf of the German delegates I would only say one thing on the point: that if a universal law on bills of exchange and a universal check law are enacted, in this case also a court should be established which would be a court of last appeal to decide controversies. In connection with this universal law on bills of exchange and universal law on checks is a suggestion which has been made by the German delegation at the international conference on a universal law on bills of exchange, held at The Hague, and The Hague Conference has unanimously voted that this is a question which should be examined by the individual governments. What I wish is nothing more than that this Congress should in general express its sentiment in favor of the institution of such a court of appeal in case a uniform international law on checks and bills of exchange is instituted, and I believe that the merchants at large have no reason whatsoever to oppose such a court, which would merely furnish a guaranty for the proper carrying into effect of such a universal law covering bills of exchange and checks.

M. le Président: Je pense que dans ces conditions-là, nous pourrions laisser la seconde partie de la question de côté, la considérer comme document et ne pas provoquer de résolution du Congrès à ce sujet. Donc, nous nous bornons au premier point. Nous notons les explications de M. Apt, mais nous ne passons pas de résolution. Il faut donc considérer cette question comme terminée.

(Translation)

I believe that under such conditions we can lay aside the second part of the issue, considering it as a document and not seeking to call forth a resolution from the Congress. Therefore, we confine ourselves to the first point, and take note of Mr. Apt's explanations, but we pass no resolutions. We consider this question closed.

Mr. William R. Tucker (*Philadelphia*): Mr. President, may I say one word?

The President: The question is closed.

Mr. Tucker: I would like to say one word, not to the question, if you will permit me.

The President: One word.

Mr. Tucker: We all acknowledge here that French is the diplomatic language. We also acknowledge, and must acknowledge, that German and English have become in a large sense the language of commerce. Now, I want to suggest, if you will permit me to do so, that, in the statement of questions upon which we are to vote, the question should be stated in the three languages, so that the people who do not understand all of them may be enabled to vote intelligently. (*Applause.*) Mr. Filene, if you will permit me to make the suggestion — and I know you will not misunderstand me — if you will state the question to us in English, and you, Mr. President, with your excellent French, of course, and your magnificent German, there can be no misunderstanding.

Mr. Alfred Aslett: May I say one word? We had the same difficulty two years ago, when the International Railway Congress was held in Berne. There the translation was in two languages, French and German. The American representatives — and there were a great many there — and the English had a majority of the members; and the Americans felt so strongly on this question that they came into the hall and said: "Every one of us will leave, every one of us, unless there is a translation in English. It is an absolute scandal. Many of us do not understand French or German. We do not know what we are talking about. It is not business." And what was the result? We had a translation in English. It was abbreviated because of the time, but we had a translation in English. We knew what we were talking about, we knew what we were doing, and we knew what we were voting upon. (*"Hear, hear!"*)

M. le Président: Nous sommes absolument d'accord et c'est précisément pour cela que dès le début du Congrès j'ai demandé à M. Filene de se tenir à côté de moi pour faire les traductions; mais dans tous les cas, au sujet de la question qui vient de se terminer, il n'y a pas de malentendu, nous sommes d'accord sur le premier point.

(Translation)

We are entirely agreed, and for this reason I have asked Mr. Filene at the opening of the Congress to remain by my side in order to do the translating; but at any rate on the question which has just been closed, there is no misunderstanding; we are agreed on the first point.

(*The President continued in English*)

We quite agreed upon the first point, and the second point has been withdrawn —

Voices: Too late, too late.

Dr. Albert C. Bonaschi (*New York*): That has been voted upon. The Congress has refused to accept it.

Mr. Thomas: I submit that it was too late to withdraw it after voting.

M. le Président: Oui, c'est entendu. Nous sommes donc d'accord.

(Translation)

Yes, it is understood. So we are agreed.

An English Delegate: Mr. President, it was not accepted by the Congress, and it should go on the record as not accepted.

M. A. Barton Kent (Londres): Je demande si c'est là votre décision finale. Le vote n'est pas enregistré sur le procès-verbal, la proposition est seulement retirée.

(Translation)

I ask if that is your final decision? The vote is not registered in the minutes, but the proposition is simply withdrawn.

M. le Président: Nous avons voté sur le premier point, sur lequel tout le monde a été d'accord.

(Translation)

We have voted on the first point, and everybody is agreed.

M. Kent: Et nous avons voté sur le second point.

(Translation)

And we have voted on the second point.

M. le Président: Pardon, nous n'avons pas voté.

(Translation)

Pardon, we have not voted.

Plusieurs Voix: Oui, oui.

(Translation)

SEVERAL VOICES: Yes, yes.

Mr. Münsterberg: We are the second time trying to avoid a misunderstanding. The honorable gentleman who has just spoken is quite right. We tried to vote on the second point, and when we did so . . .

Voices: We did vote.

Mr. Münsterberg: Excuse me; when we did so we noticed that there had been a misunderstanding.

Voices: No, no.

Mr. Münsterberg: I agree perfectly with you that perhaps the proceeding has not been absolutely correct. Now I believe we might overlook such mere formalities if the spirit of the matter has been agreed upon, and I believe that after all these explanations we have found the way out — how the Congress can give a vote, one vote upon which we are unanimous. The second vote was carried and we saw there had been some misunderstanding, and the President, after the vote had been taken, withdrew the whole thing, so that we are not divided upon this question. So perhaps, since the gentlemen, on informal points, are justi-

fied in making a certain complaint, I think we had better let the whole matter drop. We have now the dog and the tail, I believe, and I believe we can be perfectly satisfied that we have done so much as we have been able to do.

Mr. A. Barton Kent: Mr. President, I am very much obliged for that explanation, but I would like to disassociate myself from any misunderstanding on the point. I perfectly understood the question as it was put, and it was my impression that most of the delegates also understood it. Unfortunately, it did not meet with the approval of the Reporter and it was voted against. But if you as President of this Congress rule that that vote adverse to the Reporter shall not be taken, but that the proposition shall be withdrawn, I am sure all our colleagues here will bow to your ruling.

M. le Président: Je désirerais que nous soyons bien d'accord. Le premier point est acquis. Pour le second point, on a commencé le vote, il est exact, mais le vote n'a pas été acquis. Quand nous avons vu qu'il y avait de l'opposition, j'ai moi-même demandé que l'on retire la seconde partie, afin que nous soyons tous d'accord et que nous n'ayons pas à voter les uns contre les autres.

(Translation)

I would desire that we should properly agree. The first point is decided. As for the second, a vote was started, it is true, but the vote was not completed. When we saw there was opposition, I personally asked the withdrawal of the second part in order to all agree and not vote against one another.

Un Délégué: Nous sommes ici des délégués de divers pays pour procéder à un échange de vues; il y aura certainement des questions sur lesquelles nous ne serons pas d'accord; cela s'est produit, et cela se produira encore. Dans ces conditions, je demande de ne pas procéder à un vote et admettre que le Congrès n'est pas d'accord sur un point. Nous sommes d'accord sur la question de principe.

(Translation)

A DELEGATE: We are here as delegates of various countries to proceed to an exchange of views. There will certainly be issues on which we will not agree; this has taken place, and will again take place. Under such conditions I ask that we do not proceed to a vote which may make it seem that Congress is not agreed on a point. We are together on the question of principle.

M. le Président: C'est la question. Il faut donc considérer que ce point est vidé.

(Translation)

That is the question. We must consider this point withdrawn.

Plusieurs Voix: Non, non, non.

(Translation)

SEVERAL VOICES: No, no, no.

M. le Président: Pardon!

(Translation)

Pardon!

A Member: I want to know whether the negative vote which was taken on the second point goes on record.

The President: The vote was not taken on the second point. We did not vote anything.

A Member: The vote was taken, permit me to say, in the negative.

The President: The result of the vote was not announced.

Mr. Filene: Gentlemen, every one knows that until the result of the vote is announced by the Chair that vote does not count. Now, gentlemen, the President and all of your officers want only what you want. If you will make clear what you want, what this body wants, we are here to do your bidding. The President, you must understand, does not always catch every word. He speaks all languages, but sometimes in the heat of a debate like this he too misunderstands, as some of the rest of us do, but if you will make clear what you desire as a body, his only wish is to do as you want him to do.

Mr. Frank D. La Lanne (*Philadelphia*): Mr. President, Mr. Filene has said that our desires will be listened to by the Chair, and I know the desire of the Chair is always to be fair, — but in this audience there are many men who do not understand French, and I am one of them, and I can't follow the decision of the Chair; and therefore, so that we can understand the decision of the Chair — which is always fair — I would move that it be also put in English and in German, in those three languages, so that every one of us here may understand the rulings of the Chair. Now if that question is put I believe it will be carried, Mr. President, and I therefore make that motion.

Mr. Alfred Aslett: I take pleasure in seconding that motion.

M. le Président: Je considère la question comme excessivement simple. On a voté sur le premier point, j'ai annoncé le vote; sur le second point, il n'y a pas eu de vote acquis. On a retiré la question sur le second point. Enfin, à l'heure actuelle, le Congrès s'est simplement prononcé sur ceci: Il est désirable d'avoir l'unification de la loi sur les chèques, et c'est tout. Rien autre chose. Pas d'autre vote, pas d'autre résolution. Sommes-nous d'accord?

(*Translation*)

I think the question exceedingly simple. The first point has been voted upon, and I have announced it; on the second point, no vote has been taken. The question on the second point has been withdrawn. Up to the present the Congress has expressed its mind on the following: That it is desirable to have unification on the law of checks, and that is all. Nothing else. No other vote, no other resolution. Are we agreed?

Mr. Kent: I think we must bow to the ruling of our President. He has explained that the vote was taken on the first point, but when we thought that the vote was taken on the second point and lost that was not so, because he had not announced the result. He has therefore permitted the second point to be withdrawn without voting.

The President: Quite so.

Mr. Kent: That, I understand, is the ruling of the Chair, and to that ruling we must all bow.

Mr. Fraser (*London*): I suggest, with the approval of Dr. Apt, that you should appoint a committee to consider this point further, a committee which should meet in London and be charged with drawing up a report to be presented to the next meeting of this Congress. That will be a step forward and will be dealing with a point of business in a business-like way. No one wants the point shelved. We want to go forward. If you will appoint a committee my friend Dr. Apt will serve and you will appoint your own representatives also to serve, and at your next Congress you will register your decision. I have the very great pleasure to move the appointment of such a committee and ask my friend Dr. Apt to second the resolution.

The President: What are you willing to do? I ask of the convention what it is willing to do.

Dr. Apt (Berlin): Meine Herren! Es wird beantragt, die Frage möge in einem Komitee geprüft werden, das in London zusammentreten soll, und daß der Gegenstand für heute von der Tagesordnung abgesetzt wird. Damit bin ich einverstanden.

(Translation)

Gentlemen, it has been proposed that the question should be considered by a committee which should meet in London and that the subject for the present time should be withdrawn from the order of the day. This is agreeable to me.

Mr. Münsterberg: I am just going to explain what Mr. Apt has said. He is perfectly willing to second the suggestion that the Congress to-day appoint a committee which shall consider the question of checks in London and shall report to the next Congress.

Mr. Fraser (London): And then perhaps you will kindly send in to Mr. Jottrand, each section of you, the name of the gentleman you will nominate. I propose that each country should nominate one representative — or say two — tentatively, so that if one can't attend the other will be present, though only one will vote for each country. That will constitute a good working committee and will enable you to report to your next Congress. When that is finished you will kindly send your names in to Monsieur Jottrand.

M. A. Barton Kent (Londres): Nous avons des difficultés dans un congrès comme celui-ci, où tout le monde ne comprend pas toutes les langues. Il a été proposé par quelques orateurs qu'à l'avenir, il serait plus simple d'avoir les propositions répétées au Congrès dans les trois langues: anglaise, française et allemande; et si vous le permettez, j'aimerais à faire cette proposition, et que ce soit voté de suite, comme recommandation au prochain congrès.

(Translation)

We have difficulties in a Congress made up as is the present where every one does not understand all the languages. It has been suggested by some speakers that in future it would be more simple to have the propositions repeated to the Congress in the three languages, English, French and German; and if you will permit I should like to propose to have it voted on here, as a recommendation to the next Congress.

M. le Président: Je suis absolument d'accord, et je comptais faire moi-même la motion.

(Translation)

I agree entirely and I had intended to make the motion myself.

M. Kent: Je vous demande pardon, monsieur le Président. Je me retire.

(Translation)

I beg your pardon, Mr. President, and I will withdraw.

M. le Président: Je comptais faire moi-même la motion que toute proposition soit faite en français, en anglais et en allemand.

(Translation)

I had intended myself to put the motion that all propositions shall be made in French, in English and in German.

(Continuing in English).

The ruling of the Chair is that the motions will be made in French, German and English.

Mr. Alfred Georg (Geneva): We have delegates here from twenty countries, who speak Spanish.

Dr. Albert C. Bonaschi: If announcements are to be made in Spanish, they should also be made in Italian.

The President: It is suggested that motions be made in other languages than French, German and English?

Mr. Alfred Georg: Mr. President, it has been suggested that Spanish be added, also. There are here representatives of twenty South American countries, who speak Spanish.

(Continuing in French)

Monsieur le Président et messieurs, la convention ou la commission dont ont parlé les précédents orateurs aurait beaucoup à apprendre en se rendant à Londres pour voir ce qui se passe là-bas en matière de chèque; mais, messieurs, j'ai quelque scrupule à accepter la proposition qui a été faite de désigner une délégation spéciale à cet effet. Nous risquons de marcher ainsi sur les brisées du congrès spécialiste qui est chargé de s'occuper de cette question. Je crains en outre que la plupart des pays ici représentés auront quelque peine à nommer des délégués spéciaux pour aller étudier sur place, à Londres, le fonctionnement du chèque.

Je crois que nous devons abandonner cette question à l'examen de la conférence spéciale qui doit se réunir à La Haye, et s'il est utile d'envoyer une délégation à Londres pour y étudier le fonctionnement du chèque, elle le fera; mais je crois que ce n'est pas à nous qu'il appartient aujourd'hui de prendre cette position.

(Translation)

Mr. President and Gentlemen, the convention or committee which the preceding speakers have mentioned would have a great deal to learn by going to London to see what is being done on the subject of the check. But, gentlemen, I see some objections to accepting the proposal which has been made to appoint a special delegation for this purpose. We should run a risk of thus following in the footsteps of the Congress of specialists which is to occupy itself with this question. I fear also that most of the countries here represented would find some difficulty in selecting special delegates to study on the ground, in London, the operation of the check.

I believe that we should leave this question to the investigations of the special conference which is to meet in The Hague, and if it is desirable to send a delegation to London to study there the operation of the check it will do so, but I do not think that the present time is the time for us to take this position.

M. le Président: Le point a été vidé. Cette question de comité, il faudrait l'expliquer en allemand et en anglais.

(Translation)

The matter has been decided. This question of the committee should be explained in German and in English.

Mr. Georg: The Congress believes that it has now been decided that we are going to nominate the commission. I think it is not in our program for the Congress to nominate the commission at this time, but I think the special conference that is going to deal with this matter will nominate a special commission to see what is going on in London about checking, for instance, and looking into other matters that we do not have before this commission. I do not think the different countries here represented would agree to the proposition that has been made, and I propose to our President that he consider the proposition made as not accepted.

Herr Münsterberg: Ich möchte zunächst für meine deutschen Freunde einmal sagen, was Herr Dr. Geary gesagt hat, damit kein Mißverständnis unterläuft.

Er hat gesagt, daß in diesem Anordnungsdekret der Kongreß ein Komitee einsetzt, welches die Frage studieren soll, weil — wenn ich ihn richtig verstanden habe — der Kongreß in Haar sich bereits damit beschäftigt durch eine Reihe von Spezial-Sachverständigen. Er meint, daß es einlängere Zeit später darüber beschließen.

Ich persönlich bin der Ansicht, daß wir durch die Diskussion nicht weiterkommen, und daß der Kongreß jetzt darüber beschließen muß, ob er ein Komitee einsetzen will oder nicht. Was dann darüber besch. werden, was es will.

Translation.

Mr. President: I should like to say for the benefit of my German friends what Dr. Geary intended in order that there may be no misunderstanding.

He does not consider it right that the Congress should create a committee at this time to study the question, since — if I have understood him correctly — the Congress at The Hague has already investigated the subject by means of a body of experts. He believes, therefore, that it would be superfluous to make any decision at this time.

I am personally of the opinion that we cannot make any progress by means of debate and that the Congress should now decide whether it will appoint a committee or not. This without regard to any possible results.

Translation in English.

Mr. President: I beg leave to say one word for myself. Mr. Geary has given it as his opinion that the Congress would do better not to appoint a committee, because the conference at The Hague is made up of special delegates of all countries to study this question. Mr. Geary thinks the subject will be handled perhaps far better in that way than it could be handled or studied by us here now. Expressing my personal opinion, I feel just as some of the American delegates have said that it is not of very much use for us to sit around about such a question here yet or no. The Congress is of course sovereign. The Congress may appoint a commission and if the Congress votes to have a commission the Permanent Committee must try to find the people who can constitute it — unless the Congress itself will nominate certain gentlemen to constitute this committee. Of course, the President can take the vote of the Congress on the matter.

Mr. R. S. Fraser, London: Mr. President may I suggest that there should be some finality about our resolutions. You put the motion, the body voted to it, and it is finished.

Applause. I certainly do not understand public proceedings if after a resolution is passed some person who remains here but tries to express himself and ask that it be set aside. I move, Mr. President, that we proceed to the next business. *Applause.*

Mr. Geary: Mr. President in order that I may be understood I will say that I am quite sure that the special commission would learn very much in London about the check matter, but I would say here that we shall nominate at this time the right persons to make the study, and I think the special commission ought to be elected by the conference at The Hague.

Applause.

Mr. le Président: Messieurs, je dois rappeler quels sont les règlements du Comité.

Translation.

Convention: I want to remind you of the rules of the Committee.

Mr. Fraser: We voted to appoint that special committee and that special committee having been appointed the matter cannot be very well settled until the next Congress. In the meantime that committee will assemble in London. The thing is closed. Of course,

each country might nominate its representative or two representatives on the committee at London, to meet in London. They will meet in London and report to the next Congress. Let us now proceed to the next business.

M. le Président: Je consulte donc l'assemblée pour savoir quels sont ceux qui sont d'avis de voir nommer le comité; qu'ils veuillent bien lever la main. (*Levée de mains des délégués.*) Que ceux qui sont d'avis contraire lèvent la main.

(*Translation*)

I consult the assembly to find out those who are of opinion that a committee should be named. Let them raise their hands. (*Raising of hands by the delegates.*) Those who are opposed please raise their hands.

M. le Président: Le vote pour le comité est adopté. Je vais donc vous demander de voter aussi sur ce point dont j'ai parlé tout à l'heure en prenant la motion faite par un honorable membre.

(*Translation*)

The vote for the committee is adopted. I will therefore ask you to vote also on the point I mentioned a little while ago on the disposition of a motion made by an honorable member.

Mr. Manuel Walls y Merino (Spain): Mr. President, if the French, German and English are to be used, I believe the Spanish also should be used. There is a strong feeling here that that should be done. The demand comes from twenty-one countries, it being the second language spoken in the world, after the English. So I think that should be taken into consideration, as well as the German.

Mr. Albert C. Bonaschi: Mr. President, I would like to see only the three languages — English, French and German — used in this connection. If there is any other to be added, I would move that the Italian be added. It is spoken by nearly forty millions in Italy, as well as by a large number in other parts of the world.

M. le Président: Êtes-vous satisfaits, alors, si l'on propose la motion que les motions soient faites en français, en allemand, en anglais, en espagnol et en italien?

Ceux qui sont d'avis de faire les motions dans les cinq langues que je viens d'indiquer, qu'ils lèvent la main.

(*Translation*)

Are you satisfied then, if the motion is proposed that all motions should be made in French, in German, in English, in Spanish and in Italian?

Those who favor making motions in the five languages just mentioned, please raise the hand.

(*Continuing in English*)

Those in favor of having every vote and resolution announced in English, French, German, Spanish and Italian, will raise their hands. (*A number raised their hands.*)

Those who are opposed will raise their hands. (*A larger number raised their hands.*)

The motion was declared lost.

M. le Président: La question est incertaine; je ne pourrais pas me décider. Je pense qu'il faut savoir nous borner. Il est évident que la plupart d'entre nous ici comprenons au moins l'une des trois langues que je viens de citer: le français, l'anglais et l'allemand. Ce sont les trois langues dans lesquelles les motions seront faites. Ceux qui sont de cet avis, qu'ils veuillent bien lever la main. (*Levée de mains des délégués.*) L'épreuve contraire. (*Levée de mains de quelques délégués.*) La motion est adoptée. (*Applaudissements.*)

(Translation)

The matter is left in doubt; I cannot decide myself. I think we ought to keep ourselves within bounds. It is evident that most of us here understand at least one of the three languages which I have just mentioned: French, English and German. These are the three languages in which the motions will be made. Those who are of this opinion will kindly raise the hand. (*A number of delegates raised their hands.*) Contrary minded? (*A smaller number of delegates raised their hands.*) The motion is adopted. (*Applause.*)

A recess was taken at 12.55 P.M. to 2.30 P.M.

Fourth Session

COMMERCIAL STATISTICS, AND THE IMMEDIATE INSTITUTION OF AN INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

The members of the Congress reassembled at 3 P.M.

President Canon-Legrand

Messieurs, la séance est reprise.

Le quatrième objet à l'ordre du jour ayant été, à la demande des intéressés, remis à la séance de demain, nous aborderons le cinquième objet: "Statistique commerciale et institution immédiate d'un office international."

Le rapporteur, M. EUGÈNE ALLARD, a la parole, et je prierais les rapporteurs, comme tous les orateurs, d'être aussi brefs que possible.

(Translation)

Gentlemen, the sitting is resumed.

The fourth matter in the order of the day having been, at the request of parties interested, postponed until to-morrow's session, we will take up the fifth matter: "Commercial Statistics, and the Immediate Institution of an International Office."

The Reporter, Mr. EUGÈNE ALLARD, has the floor, and I ask the Reporters, as all the other speakers, to be as brief as possible.

M. Allard: Messieurs, je vais répondre à la demande de notre cher président en étant le plus bref possible. Du reste, je ne voudrais pas troubler votre digestion en vous infligeant la lecture de toute la paperasserie, après tous les rapports que vous avez eus.

(Translation)

Gentlemen, I shall respond to the request of our dear President by being as brief as possible. Moreover, I would not trouble your digestion by inflicting upon you the reading of this pile of papers after all the reports you have had.

M. le Président: On ne lit pas les rapports, on les résume.

(Translation)

The reports are not read, they should be summarized.

M. Eugène Allard, President of the Belgian Chamber of Commerce of Paris

Le résumé en sera très simple. La question qui est à l'ordre du jour, la statistique commerciale, a cette bonne fortune, qu'elle est la seule depuis l'institution de nos congrès internationaux, qui obtient une solution pratique par le fait d'une entente gouvernementale pour l'établissement d'une statistique douanière internationale. Vous n'ignorez pas que la conférence réunie à Bruxelles s'est mise d'accord sur un groupe supplémentaire statistique de chaque pays, dans lequel seront relevés un nombre déterminé de produits. Ce groupement forme aujourd'hui deux cent huit catégories. Vous voyez le beau résultat que nous avons obtenu. Lors de notre congrès de Milan, nous avions deux cent soixante et quinze catégories, et à Bruxelles, nous avons obtenu deux cent huit. En conséquence, il y a ce fait,

c'est que la conférence a accepté une classification uniforme. Ce qui est regrettable c'est que cette même conférence, après avoir déclaré qu'il fallait établir ce groupement dans la statistique prochaine, qui était la statistique de 1910, n'a absolument rien fait. Tout est resté en état, parce qu'à la conférence il s'est produit une proposition nouvelle, qui était l'organisation d'un bureau permanent pour l'établissement de statistiques douanières. Il paraît que la conférence va se réunir, une nouvelle séance va avoir lieu sous peu, et que l'on en arrivera à une solution pratique. Je crois que nous devrions formuler un vœu demandant au gouvernement qui a pris l'initiative de la réunion de cette conférence de hâter ses travaux, afin que le commerce international puisse enfin avoir la satisfaction qu'il réclame; et ce vœu, je la formule dans mon rapport, en des termes qui pourraient paraître plus ou moins comminatoires, et que je vous proposerais de changer dans le sens suivant:

"Le Congrès, reconnaissant de l'initiative prise par le gouvernement Belge d'avoir réuni à Bruxelles le 19 septembre 1910, les délégués de vingt-deux États pour chercher les moyens d'introduire plus d'harmonie et plus d'unité dans les tableaux des échanges du commerce mondial, se ralliant à la décision prise à cette conférence de faire établir par chacun de ces États en dehors de sa statistique commerciale, une nomenclature commune où doivent se grouper des marchandises importées et exportées, sous la double indication du poids et de la valeur, exprime le vœu que cette nomenclature figure dans le plus bref délai possible dans les tableaux statistiques des gouvernements représentés à la conférence; approuve la proposition à la conférence de Bruxelles de voir créer un bureau international de la statistique commerciale, chargé de centraliser toutes les indications utiles, pour donner au commerce mondial un aperçu annuel, et autant que possible semestriel, et par la suite mensuel, du mouvement commercial des différents pays du globe, rédigé conformément au groupement des marchandises adopté par la conférence susdite; émet le vœu que le gouvernement belge invite sans retard tous les États à conclure une convention assurant la mise en œuvre des travaux projetés."

Voilà, messieurs, les vœux que je vous propose de vouloir bien adopter.

(Translation)

The summary will be very simple. The question which is on the order of the day, Commercial Statistics, has this good fortune, that it is the only one, since the organization of our International Congresses, which obtains a practical solution through a governmental agreement for the establishment of international customs statistics. You are aware that the Brussels Conference has agreed on a supplementary statistical group of each country, wherein a fixed number of products will be noted. This grouping to-day contains 208 categories. You see the beautiful result we have obtained. During our Milan Congress we had 275 categories, and in Brussels, 208. As a result, the fact appears that the conference has accepted or adopted a uniform classification. What is regrettable is, that this same conference, after having declared that a grouping should be established in the next statistics, those of 1910, has done absolutely nothing. All has remained in the same state because at the conference a new proposition was produced, that of organizing a permanent bureau for the establishment of custom-house statistics. It seems that the conference will meet, that a new session will soon take place, and a practical solution will be reached. I believe that we should formulate our wish in a request to the government which has taken the initiative of a conference meeting, to hasten its work, so that international commerce may have the desired satisfaction; and this wish appears in my report in terms which might appear more or less threatening, and which I would propose to change as follows:

"The Congress, recognizing the initiative taken by the Belgian Government in bringing together at Brussels on September 19, 1910, delegates of twenty-two States to seek for the means of introducing more harmony and unity in the tables of exchanges of the commerce of the whole world, approving the decision taken at that conference to have established for each one of these States, in addition to its own commercial statistics, a common nomenclature, under which may be grouped all merchandise imported or exported under the heading of both weight and value, expresses the wish that this common nomenclature may appear with the briefest possible delay in the statistical tables of the governments represented at the conference, and hopes that the Belgian Government may be willing to continue its co-operation for the realization of this program, approves

the proposition made at the Brussels Conference for the creation of an international bureau of commercial statistics for the purpose of centralizing information under all useful headings to give to the commerce of the whole world an annual summary, and as soon as possible a semi-annual summary and eventually a monthly summary of the commercial movements of the different countries of the globe, arranged in conformity with the grouping of merchandise adopted by the aforesaid conference, adopts the resolution that the Belgian Government invite without delay all the States to conclude a convention assuring the execution of the projected work."

These are the suggestions I wish you to adopt.

M. le Président: Ces motions, sur lesquelles nous aurons à voter, sont traduites en anglais et en allemand; je vous en donnerai donc lecture tout à l'heure dans les trois langues. Pour ne pas perdre de temps, je donne la parole à M. W. M. HAYS, assistant-secrétaire de l'agriculture à Washington.

(Translation)

These motions on which we shall have to vote are translated into English and German and I will read them to you later in the three languages. Not to lose time I give the floor to Mr. W. M. HAYS, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture at Washington.

Mr. W. M. Hays, *Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.*

Mr. President and Gentlemen:

I am at some disadvantage in discussing this question at the present point, but I do wish to discuss for a few moments a broader side of this subject of international statistics, somewhat from the standpoint of all our markets. I sincerely hope that you will carry this motion in some such form. I don't know the exact form of your motions. This matter of international statistics, world-area statistics, not only of agricultural products but of manufactured products and all products in store, needs to be followed out in its complete form, as is demonstrated not only by the work done by the statistical bureau of this country and by the bureaus of other countries, but by the bureau of statistics of the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome, which deals with those international statistics that have gradually, as our good friend from Belgium suggests, come under a common nomenclature for the entire world.

Those statistics are becoming useful and we need such statistics in our markets. They should not be prepared so much by bureaus of the markets themselves or by private firms in connection with those markets, but by public bureaus. They will be useful not only in the locality where products are originally dealt with, but in the places where they are to be distributed. These statistics will greatly help the producers, the farmers, particularly those producing perishable products, as well as being of assistance to the market agencies. They will help in the carrying of the right amount of products to the markets all the time, as well as keeping more steady supplies of products. This will have an important bearing on the handling of the product, will steady and balance things up and will be much better for people all along the line.

The trade statistics are drifting gradually from private agencies to public agencies. Some one might say at once that the statistics of perishable products are so difficult to deal with they cannot be handled by a public agency; but let me call to your attention the inadequate and bad handling of the statistics by private agencies. If the thing could be guaranteed in some public agencies so that accurate figures could be obtained in the way of original statistics at the point where the products are produced and figures showing how the supply fluctuates from day to day, also obtaining statistics of the consuming market, where the consuming power also fluctuates from day to day, if all these statistics, dealing with the producer, the merchant, the transporting agencies and the consumer, could be handled in one way, it would be a great advantage to the country.

So I say that we need to bring more and more of these statistics into public agencies, leaving to the markets their proper function, which is that of melting that which is gathered together daily in the daily price. In agriculture, and in many other lines, we want not only the statistics of production but the statistics of stocks in transit, of stocks in store, of manufactured products which enter into competition with the products produced in furnishing a basis for the price; and we even need statistics, possibly publicly gathered, as to the ability of the consuming public that consumes a given product, so as to reduce the market agencies more nearly to their one function — melting these down into daily prices.

The producers of cotton in this and other countries have come to give up their facts as to production. The manufacturers will see that it is fair that they give up the prices concerning their stocks in hand, and the consuming public certainly will be glad to have told the facts as to their purchasing power and to be told, if need be, under public bureaus.

I believe most sincerely that if we can extend to these public agencies all along the line — not in connection with the splendid plans with reference to tariffs and these large movements, but generally so as to handle facts regarding the movements of our products, the quantities at one end and the requirements of the consumer at the other end — it will help to smooth out the inequalities, the difficulties, wrongs, irritations of our whole trade situation; and with this data in hand it may be that world commissions, some world agencies, may be able to work out a better scheme of marketing with a lessened amount of this irritating speculation on margins that we now have. Whatever is done in this way must be done in a careful and most constructive way, not in an arbitrary or weak way, but in a most comprehensive way; and I do not know of any agency able to handle the question with the breadth and intricacy needed, short of some sort of world commission. The International Institute of Agriculture at Rome, possibly co-operating with some such commission as you contemplate, may give a great deal of help in this matter. Many things wrought out by Mr. Lubin and his associates will be of great use in elaborating the plans that you and I have in mind.

So far as agricultural statistics for world areas are concerned, the agencies are well established in connection with this institution at Rome, and institutions in the various countries, under the guidance and inspiration of the Bureau of Agriculture at Rome, might be able to do very much. The various agencies in the different countries, as Lubin tells me, are gradually increasing and perfecting their industries and have worked out these statistics of production in the various countries. Then, as you suggest, Mr. Allard, they divide them into two. They use the local statistics as they need them and give to the statistical agencies the figures needed for world business and the handling of world products.

The most significant fact in this entire matter does not specifically concern markets, nor tariffs, nor nomenclature, nor methods of gathering and distributing statistics, nor of marketing products, nor of removing the frenzied finance, the gambling, or the irritation to trade from our margin markets. The significant fact, as best illustrated by the International Institute of Agriculture, is that we have begun to think and act in the terms of a world government. And may we not hope that as the machinery of world government is developed the exigencies of business may greatly contribute to the organization of a world government which will assure world peace among the nations as our national governments now prevent war among their federated states.

When world business clearly senses the fact that a world police, with a local police for the internal affairs of each nation, is a business necessity, we shall have another large influence for the organization of that world republic which now seems easier to organize and to endow with stability than did the creation of a great Republic when the Thirteen American Colonies were struggling to form a progressive government.

A really efficient and powerful commission to study world trade might do wonders in the interest of trade, and especially in the interest of the producer and the consumer, the common people who hereafter must pay the high costs of living. Such a commission certainly would do a large service in the interests of world peace, of organizing the world in the interests of the whole world.

M. le Président: Je remercie l'orateur de ses remarques sur la question des statistiques relatives à l'agriculture. Ce qu'il a dit n'a rien qui soit opposé aux conclusions de M. Allard, dont je vous donnerai lecture tout à l'heure. M. FRASER a demandé la parole.

(Translation)

I thank the speaker for his remarks relative to agricultural statistics. What he has said is not opposed to the conclusion of Mr. Allard, which I will read to you in a moment. Mr. FRASER has requested the floor.

Mr. R. S. Fraser, Member of Council of London Chamber of Commerce

Mr. President, I would not have been a participator in this discussion had not a friend been unavoidably prevented from being present. I would much rather not discuss the paper, but draw attention to the fact that the writer does not make reference to the progress that has been made since the year 1908, when this matter came first before this association. A committee was then appointed to consider and investigate the matter and formulate proposals, and my friend Mr. Musgrave, secretary of the London Chamber of Commerce, read an exceedingly able paper at the London Congress in the year 1910. With your permission I will read to you a short resolution that was then approved.

"This Congress is of opinion that uniformity in the compilation of customs statistics, and particularly in regard to methods of valuation of imports and exports, is of the highest economic importance, and commends the subject to the attention of the different governments and to the International Statistical Institute."

Now, sir, the International Statistical Institute did hold a meeting last year at The Hague when two very remarkable and notable offers were made by the governments of Switzerland and Holland in the way of taking particular steps for establishing a permanent bureau for handling this very subject. I will read you from the report of last year. Monsieur Milier, official delegate of Switzerland, immediately arose and declared in the name of his government that they were ready to take the necessary steps for the foundation of an international statistical office by engaging at once in an arrangement between the governments of the different countries. The representative of the Netherlands arose and announced on behalf of his government that they were prepared not only to take the necessary steps to promote the establishment of an international statistical office, but would also meet the expense of such an office up to a certain maximum for the first two years. Now, sir, my suggestion is that we take with sincerity the commission appointed by this association in the year 1908 and affirmed in 1910 and also the commission appointed by the International Statistical Institute, and we should ask those two commissions to confer together with a view to availing ourselves of the offers of the two governments that I have mentioned. I support with all heartiness the proposition of my friend Allard, and ask you please merely to treat my criticisms as of a friendly character, intended to strengthen his hands and not in any way to derogate from the force of the arguments which he has used.

M. le Président: L'orateur vient donc de demander que l'on s'arrange pour que les deux conférences qui existent déjà puissent correspondre entre elles, de manière à renforcer leur action respective.

J'ai encore comme orateur inscrit M. SOETBEER.

(Translation)

The speaker would therefore ask that it should be arranged so that the two conferences which already exist might correspond with each other, in order to reinforce their respective action.

I have another speaker on the order of the day, Dr. SOETBEER.

Dr. Soetbeer, General Secretary of "Der Deutsche Handelstag," Berlin

Meine Herren! Es ist noch nicht hinreichend bekannt geworden, welche Stellung die einzelnen Regierungen einnehmen zu den Vorschlägen, die in Brüssel zur Vereinheitlichung der internationalen Handels-Statistik gemacht worden sind. Ich gestatte mir daher, hier mitzuteilen, daß das Kaiserlich-Statistische Amt des Deutschen Reichs durchaus auf dem Boden der Brüsseler Beschlüsse steht, daß gemäß den Wünschen, die dieser Kongreß schon früher geäußert hat, es als ein großer Fortschritt anzusehen ist, wenn die verschiedenen Statistiken der verschiedenen Länder in gleiche Gruppen gebracht werden. Das Kaiserlich-Statistische Amt des Deutschen Reichs sieht keine unüberwindlichen Schwierigkeiten darin, die deutsche Statistik auf die 185 Gruppen, die die Brüsseler Beschlüsse vorschlagen, einzurichten.

Das Deutsche Kaiserlich-Statistische Amt ist ferner damit einverstanden, daß in Brüssel ein Internationales Statistisches Bureau zur weiteren Förderung dieser Bestrebungen eingerichtet wird. Man hat mir gesagt, daß es nicht an der deutschen Regierung liegt, wenn die Angelegenheit nicht schneller vorwärts geht, und daß es die deutsche Regierung begrüßen würde, wenn dieser Kongreß dahin wirkt, daß auch die anderen Staaten sich schneller entschlossen, zu den Brüsseler Vorschlägen Stellung zu nehmen, damit das Ziel erreicht wird, das sich der Kongreß durch seine früheren Beschlüsse gesteckt hat.

(Translation)

Gentlemen, it is not yet entirely known what position the various governments adopt towards the proposals which were drawn up at Brussels for the unification of international commercial statistics. I take the liberty, therefore, of stating here that the Imperial Statistical Bureau of the German Empire is based entirely on the principle of the Brussels resolves, according to the suggestion which had already been previously expressed by this Congress that it would be a great step forward if the various statistical tables of the various countries could be arranged in identical groupings. The Imperial Statistical Bureau of the German Empire does not see any insurmountable difficulties in the way of dividing the German statistics into the 185 groups proposed by the Brussels resolves.

The German Imperial Statistical Bureau further agrees that an international statistical bureau might be established in Brussels for the further advancement of these purposes. I have been told that it is not the fault of the German Government that the matter does not make greater progress and that the German Government would be glad if this Congress should take steps to persuade other States to decide more quickly to act on the Brussels proposals, in order that the aim may be attained which has been set by the Congress in its previous resolves.

M. le Président: M. SHONINGER a demandé la parole.

(Translation)

Mr. SHONINGER requests the floor.

Mr. Bernard J. Shoninger, President of the American Chamber of Commerce in Paris

I have only a few words to say. We from the American Chamber of Commerce in Paris and I think the representatives of American commercial organizations present, are heartily in favor of the project as submitted by my friend Mr. Allard. We have only one suggestion to make. Just before — in fact, the day before I left Paris — I had the honor of speaking, in the absence of the Minister of Finance, to his chief secretary, who advised me that the French Government had decided to invite — and possibly the invitations had been already sent, for May, 1913, — all governments to participate in a second congress which they call,

— and as I have the official program before me I will read from that — the *Deuxième Congrès Douanière*, — and the program which I will read to you afterwards is exactly on the lines proposed. I have no authority to say so, but I think that if we would all agree to adopt in principle the propositions as proposed by Mr. Allard, and besides that use our influence so that all the governments will be represented at this congress to be held in Paris in May, 1913, which you see is only six months hence, a little over six months hence, that a great step forward will be made in the much to be desired unification of statistics. Besides the questions put forward here there are one or two others. I have the program in French. I will read it in French and then give those that do not understand the French the translation.

(*Mr. Shoninger reads the French program of the Deuxième Congrès Douanière, to be held in Paris in May, 1913.*)

You therefore see that the French Government has virtually adopted the formation of an international bureau.

Now I will try to state this for those that do not understand the French. There are five sections put here inviting other governments to participate in this congress in May, 1913. The French Government virtually accepts in principle two of the most important questions that are now before you. The first and the last are those that are adopted. The others are a little bit irrelevant to this, but still come into the Congress. The first is the interest that would attach to the creation of an international bureau of statistics, so as to group all the information both for imports and exports from all the different countries and to establish a table that would indicate at a glance their movements. That, of course, the French Government has adopted because they ask you to join.

Second, how to establish relations that would regulate two questions, — commercial travelers first, and their samples, second. This is irrelevant, but it interests everybody. Third, to study questions that would do away with the payment of duties on merchandise that would be imported on approval. Fourth, would it not be desirable to establish some kind of a board whereby all questions, or customs questions, under discussion in all countries would be left to a certain board of experts? And then this question is subdivided again: Will it be best to submit that to a board of experts composed of legal experts or only to those connected with custom-houses?

Now I will come to the last question, but which also touches the question before us. Wouldn't it be well to pursue the study by which some international agreement would be arrived at, tending to adopt a definition, a uniform definition as to what constitutes net weight and gross weight, in order to apply that to all custom-house questions?

So that you see the first and last questions on which the French Government has asked all governments to join is heartily accepted by them and they want your accord. We are heartily in accord with all these questions. The only little difference of opinion is in regard to the questions raised by Mr. Allard. We would probably be asked to invite the Belgian Government to have another Congress on this same subject. Whether to have it before or after that of the French Government is for you to decide. I thought it was my duty, having been entrusted with this matter, to bring it before you. Gentlemen, I thank you for your attention.

M. le Président: Tous les orateurs semblent donc d'accord. Je m'en vais maintenant vous donner lecture des conclusions de M. Allard dans les trois langues, pour qu'il n'y ait pas de confusion. La discussion est close.

(*Lecture des conclusions dans les trois langues.*)

Voilà donc dans les trois langues la première partie des conclusions de M. Allard. Je les mets aux voix. Que ceux qui sont d'avis de l'adopter lèvent la main. (*Lève de mains.*) L'épreuve contraire. (*Personne ne lève la main.*) Il n'y a pas d'objection. Cette première partie est donc adoptée.

Vient maintenant dans la proposition de M. Allard un second point:

"Approuver la proposition faite à la conférence de Bruxelles de voir créer un bureau international de la statistique commerciale, chargé de centraliser toutes les indications nécessaires pour donner un aperçu annuel, semestriel, mensuel, rédigé conformément à un groupement des marchandises adopté par la conférence susdite."

Que ceux qui sont d'avis d'adopter les termes de cette proposition lèvent la main. (*Lectée de mains.*) L'épreuve contraire. Adoptée.

Enfin, M. Allard termine en émettant "le vœu que le gouvernement belge invite sans retard tous les pays à conclure une convention sur la mise en œuvre des travaux projetés." La communication de M. Shoninger fait connaître que le gouvernement français marche de son côté.

Enfin, c'est un vœu que nous pouvons, je pense, émettre dans tous les cas. Il vaut mieux qu'il y ait deux gouvernements qui s'occupent de la chose qu'un seul.

(*Lecture de la conclusion dernière en anglais et en allemand.*)

Que ceux qui sont d'avis d'adopter cette dernière proposition lèvent la main. (*Lectée de mains.*) L'épreuve contraire. Le Congrès adopte, et nous pouvons considérer cette question comme terminée.

(*Translation*)

All the speakers seem then to agree. I will now read to you Mr. Allard's conclusions in the three languages in order to avoid confusion. The discussion is closed.

(*Reading first three paragraphs of resolutions in French, German and English.*)

Here is then in three languages the first part of Mr. Allard's conclusions. I put them up for a vote. Those who approve the adoption thereof, please raise their hands. (*Raising of hands.*) Any one contrary? (*No hand is raised.*) There is no objection. This first part is therefore adopted.

Now in the proposition of Mr. Allard comes a second point:

"The approval of the propositions made at the Brussels Conference looking to the creation of an international bureau of commercial statistics, entrusted with the centralization of all necessary indications, aiming at giving annual, semi-annual and monthly reports, worded in accordance with the grouping of the merchandise as adopted by the aforementioned conference."

Those who favor the adoption of this proposition, please raise their hands. (*Raising of hands.*) Those who do not? Adopted.

Lastly, Mr. Allard concludes with the wish that the Belgian Government invite without delay all the countries to conclude an agreement to put in operation the projected work. Mr. Shoninger's communication informs us that the French Government is proceeding in the same direction.

It is then a resolution which we can, I believe, adopt in any case. It is better that two governments attend to the matter than one.

(*Reads last resolution in English and German.*)

Those who are in favor of adopting this latter proposition will please raise their hands. (*Hands are raised.*) Those opposed? The Congress adopts the resolution, and we may consider this question as closed.

(*The French and English text of the resolutions will be found in Mr. Allard's address on a previous page; the German text is as follows:*)

Der Kongreß spricht seine Anerkennung aus über die seitens der belgischen Regierung ergriffene Initiative bei der Zusammenberufung von zweiundzwanzig Staaten in Brüssel, am 19ten September 1910, zum Zweck der Feststellung von Mitteln und Wegen, um größere Übereinstimmung und Gleichmäßigkeit in der Aufstellung kommerzieller Statistiken in der Welt herbeizuführen; erteilt seine Zustimmung zum Beschluß der besagten Konferenz, demzufolge jeder der in Betracht kommenden Staaten, außer der regelmäßigen kommerziellen Statistik, eine gemeinschaftliche Klassifizierung aufstellt, nach der Export- und Import-Güter

mit der doppelten Spezifikation von Gewicht und Wert gruppiert werden; drückt den Wunsch aus, daß diese gemeinschaftliche Klassifizierung in den statischen Tabellen der Regierungen, die auf der Konferenz vertreten waren, tunlichst bald erscheinen mögen; und drückt seine Zuversicht aus, daß die belgische Regierung auch in der Zukunft der Verwirklichung dieses Planes sympathisch gegenüber stehen und denselben fördern wird.

Der Kongreß drückt ferner seine Zustimmung zu dem auf der Brüsseler Konferenz gemachten Vorschlag aus, demzufolge ein Internationales Statistisches Bureau eingerichtet werden soll, dessen Obliegenheit es sein soll, alle für den Welthandel nützlichen Data zusammenzustellen und in einem jährlichen Bericht zu veröffentlichen, mit der weiteren Bemerkung, daß dieser Bericht tunlichst bald alle sechs Monate, und schließlich alle Monate erscheinen soll, wobei besagter Bericht die kommerzielle Statistik der verschiedenen Länder des Erdballs auf Grund der von oben besagter Konferenz adoptierten gemeinschaftlichen Klassifizierung enthalten soll; und er drückt ferner den Wunsch aus, die belgische Regierung möge ohne Verzug alle Staaten einladen, ein Abkommen zu treffen, das die Verwirklichung obigen Werkes möglich macht.

VALIDATION OF THROUGH-ORDER-NOTIFY BILLS OF LADING

M. le Président: Nous abordons l'objet suivant de l'ordre du jour qui est: "Conférence Internationale sur la validité des Connaissements directs à ordre, et utilité d'une législation et d'autres moyens rendant leur système plus efficace."

Nous avons un très bon rapport, présenté par M. CHARLES S. HAIGHT, de New-York, qui débute par un résumé, afin de permettre à ceux qui ne veulent pas le lire en entier d'en avoir rapidement connaissance.

La parole est donc à M. HAIGHT.

(Translation)

We now begin the next subject on the order of the day which is: "The Desirability of an International Conference upon the Validation of Through-order-notify Bills of Lading and of Legislation and Other Means for making the System more Effective."

We have a very good report presented by Mr. Charles S. Haight of New York which begins with a summary in order to permit those who do not care to read it in its entirety to quickly obtain an acquaintance with the subject.

Mr. HAIGHT has the floor.

Mr. Charles S. Haight, New York, N. Y.

I did not understand when I was asked to speak before you that it was my privilege to recommend action by the Congress. You will not find, therefore, in my paper any reference to action. But I have been told that I may make such recommendations, and I would therefore propose the following:

First, a resolution that this Congress approves of the legislation proposed and now before the United States Congress in the way of the Pomerene Bill, making carriers responsible on their bills of lading where issued by their authorized agents after they have passed into the hands of innocent third parties.

Second, a resolution that this Congress approves of the Cotton Bills of Lading Central Bureau for the safeguarding of cotton bills of lading against forgery.

Third, — a point which I have not yet touched upon, — that this Congress recommend to its Permanent Committee a consideration of the desirability of an international congress for the promotion of uniform laws governing international carriers.

It has been my privilege to represent a number of steamship companies. It has been

very lucrative for lawyers, but extremely disagreeable for them, to operate under the conditions existing to-day, which are that in Germany a certain exemption in a bill of lading may be perfectly legal, but in England that exemption may be illegal and void, and in a third country a bill of lading containing that exemption may, when issued, constitute a crime. International bills of lading are necessarily documents in which at least two countries are interested. It is quite as impossible for an individual to accomplish the feat of conspiracy or matrimony as it is for a single nation to regulate international shipments. You must have international action. And as I know the situation of the steamship companies, believe me they would be glad to co-operate in any movement which would enable them to know, once and for all, what exemptions they may legally incorporate in their bills of lading and what exemptions are forbidden. If an international conference can be held as the result of which each country deliberately considering the question may agree with all the rest of the commercial world as to the liabilities from which an ocean carrier or a rail carrier may exempt himself and those from which he may not, you will save the largest part of the friction which to-day exists in all the countries of the world. I would only ask that in such a conference the steamship companies, which are so valuable to international trade, should not necessarily be classed with those good old-fashioned bill of lading evils, the act of God, restraint of princes, rulers and people, perils of the sea, barratry and the like.

I thank you. (*Applause.*)

M. le Président: Je lis les conclusions dans les trois langues.

(*Translation*)

I will read the conclusions in the three languages.

(*Reading, as follows:*)

I. That the Congress approves the legislation now pending in the Congress of the United States for establishing the liability of carriers on bills of lading issued by their agents on international shipments.

II. That the Congress views with satisfaction the Central Bureau System for validation of bills of lading on international transactions.

III. That the Congress refers to the Permanent Committee the consideration of an international conference to promote uniformity in the laws governing the liability of international carriers.

I. Que le Congrès approuve la législation maintenant sur le tapis au Congrès des États-Unis ayant trait à l'établissement de la responsabilité des franes-porteurs à propos de connaissements émis par leurs agents dans des expéditions internationales.

II. Que le Congrès voit avec satisfaction le système d'un bureau central pour la validation des connaissements dans des transactions internationales.

III. Que le Congrès s'en rapporte au comité permanent pour la considération d'une conférence internationale pour favoriser l'uniformité dans les lois qui concernent la responsabilité des franes-porteurs internationaux.

I. Der Kongreß drückt hiermit seine Übereinstimmung aus mit dem gegenwärtig dem Vereinigten Staaten-Kongreß vorliegenden Gesetzentwurf über die Verantwortlichkeit der Verfrachter bezüglich der Konnossemente, die von ihren Agenten mit Bezug auf internationale Warensendungen ausgestellt worden sind.

II. Der Kongreß drückt hiermit seine Zustimmung aus zum Zentral-Bureau-System für Validierung von auf internationale Geschäfte bezüglichen Konnossementen.

III. Der Kongreß verweist hiermit an das ständige Komitee die Erledigung der Frage einer internationalen Konferenz über die Beförderung gleichmäßiger Gesetzgebung, die die Verantwortlichkeit internationaler Verfrachter zum Gegenstand hat.

The President: I have now registered as speaker Mr. SAMUEL E. PIZA, of Costa Rica.

Mr. Samuel E. Piza, *Delegate of the Government of Costa Rica*

Mr. President and Gentlemen:

The question brought up by Mr. Haight is, in my opinion, of the greatest importance of any question brought before the Congress to this moment. It really deals with the most important part of international transactions. It tends to prevent forgery in general and misunderstandings between the merchants of one country and another.

It is not my intention to treat Mr. Haight's subject as a whole, but I will only point out the importance of the first part of it — that is, the establishment of a thorough bill of lading. That means that if we should happen to obtain a system of having the bills of lading made out under a sound responsibility on the part of the carriers, we are perfectly safe to deal with the bills of lading without having to obtain any other information. Perhaps I am not clear enough on that point. My object is this. For instance, even when forgery is not the cause of the trouble in any international transaction, there may be other difficulties. Suppose the goods are lost? The fact that the bill of lading has been issued under a thorough responsibility on the part of the shipper and the carrier, gives the insurance company itself, through the agent where the goods land, a document upon which they can depend for the payment of any claim. Recently in my country I had the opportunity of seeing what happened in connection with the claim of a merchant in my country for some goods that were lost. There was a great deal of difficulty because the insurance company wanted documents from Italy and documents from the government custom-house in order to pay the railroad company the claim, which they were to pay the merchant. If we had established the plan of making out bills of lading under a thorough responsibility of the shipper, all those difficulties would be avoided; the responsibility on the part of the carriers, on the part of the railroads themselves, would be much less in such cases. In fact, gentlemen, while I do not wish to discuss the subject any further, I wish to express my greatest desire that the Congress take up with the greatest interest the question that Mr. Haight has brought before us. (*Applause.*)

M. le Président: Personne ne demande plus la parole? Je vous demande donc de voter sur les résolutions dont je vous ai donné lecture. Je ne les reprends pas, je vous demande seulement de les voter une à une. La première:

(*Translation*)

Are there any other speakers? I will, then, ask you to vote on the resolutions which I have just had read to you. I will not repeat them but will ask you to vote for them one by one. First:

"That the Congress approves of the legislation now pending in the Congress of the United States for establishing the liabilities of carriers on bills of lading by their agents on international shipments."

Que ceux qui sont d'avis d'adopter cette résolution veuillent bien lever la main. (*L'écrée de mains.*) L'épreuve contraire. Pas d'opposition. Donc, adoptée.

Le seconde résolution:

(*Translation*)

Those who are in favor of adopting this resolution will please raise their hands. (*Hands are raised.*) Contrary minded? No opposition. It is a vote.

The second resolution:

"That the Congress views with satisfaction the Central Bureau System for validation of bills of lading on international transactions."

Que ceux qui sont d'avis d'adopter cette résolution veuillent bien lever la main. (*L'écrée de mains.*) Pas d'opposition. Adoptée.

La troisième:

(Translation)

Those who are in favor of adopting this resolution will please raise their hands. (*Hands are raised.*) No opposition. Adopted.

Third:

"That the Congress refers to the Permanent Committee the consideration of an international conference to promote uniformity in the laws governing the liabilities of international carriers."

(Que ceux qui sont d'avis d'adopter cette résolution veuillent bien lever la main. (*Levée de mains.*) Pas d'opposition. Adoptée.

(Translation)

Those who are in favor of adopting this resolution will please raise their hands. (*Hands are raised.*) No opposition. Adopted.

M. le Président: Je dois vous faire connaître que pour épuiser notre ordre du jour, il nous reste trois questions à examiner; nous avons réservé la question des réformes postales et il y a les questions 7 et 8. Évidemment, si nous sommes certains de pouvoir les examiner dans la session de demain matin, à partir de dix heures, nous pourrions terminer nos travaux demain dans la matinée, vers une heure; mais si nous devons siéger dans l'après-midi, cette salle-ci ne sera plus disponible et nous devrons siéger à la Public Library, en face de cet Hôtel. Je pense que le mieux est de continuer la discussion aujourd'hui — il est 4 heures 15 — nous pourrions dans ces conditions-là terminer demain.

(Translation)

I must call your attention to the fact that to complete our order of the day there remain three questions to be discussed; we have postponed the question of postal reforms and there are also questions 7 and 8. Of course if we are certain of being able to discuss them in the morning session to-morrow, to start from ten o'clock, we could finish our work to-morrow in the morning towards one o'clock; but if we must have a session in the afternoon, this hall will not be available and we will have to hold the session at the Public Library opposite this hotel. I think that the best way is to continue the discussion to-day—it is a quarter past four—and we can under those circumstances finish to-morrow.

M. Shoninger: Je vous ferai remarquer, monsieur le président, que la question que vous avez mise au vote n'était indiquée que pour demain matin, et qu'il y a plusieurs délégués qui ne sont pas préparés pour parler aujourd'hui sur cette question, tandis que la question de la réforme postale était indiquée pour aujourd'hui.

(Translation)

I will call your attention, Mr. President, to the fact that the question which you have put to vote was assigned for to-morrow morning, and that there are several delegates who are not prepared to speak upon it to-day, since the question of postal reform was assigned for to-day.

M. le Président: Cette question, d'accord avec le rapporteur et certains orateurs, a été remise à jeudi; elle était primitivement indiquée pour aujourd'hui. Voici ce que je vous proposerais: que demain matin nous commençons nos travaux à dix heures précises, et que nous les continuons jusqu'à une heure, s'il le faut. Je vous serais très obligé d'expliquer la chose à vos amis.

(Translation)

That question, with the consent of the Reporter and certain speakers, has been postponed until Thursday; it was originally designated for to-day. I would make this sug-

gestion: that to-morrow morning we begin our work at ten o'clock precisely, and that we continue until one o'clock, if necessary. I should be greatly obliged if you would explain the matter to your friends.

M. Shoninger: La question, je comprends; sera encore ouverte à la discussion demain matin?

(Translation)

The question, I understand, will be still open to discussion to-morrow morning?

M. le Président: Oui. Dans ces conditions-là, donc, nous ajournons à demain. Nous reprendrons nos travaux à dix heures précises, avec la bonne volonté de les continuer jusqu'à la fin, au besoin jusqu'à une heure, de manière à ne pas avoir de session dans l'après-midi.

(Translation)

Yes. Under these conditions, then, we shall adjourn until to-morrow. We will resume our proceedings at 10 o'clock precisely, with the intention of continuing if necessary until 1 o'clock, in order not to have a session in the afternoon.

M. Shoninger: Si vous me le permettez, je dirai que pour gagner un peu de temps demain matin, nous pourrions commencer par la question qui n'est pas terminée. Comme cela, nous aurons sauvegardé les intérêts de tout le monde.

(Translation)

If you will permit me, I will suggest that in order to gain a little time to-morrow we might begin with the question which is not concluded. In that way we shall have safeguarded the interests of everybody.

The President: Gentlemen, it is well understood that we will begin work to-morrow morning at just 10 o'clock, in order to go through the three minor points and finish our work, if possible, by 1 o'clock. The meeting is adjourned.

Adjourned at 4.20 P.M., to meet on Thursday, September 26, at 10 A.M.

Fifth Session

The session was called to order at 10.13 A.M., September 26, 1912, President LOUIS CANON-LEGRAND in the chair. At the desk, General Secretary ÉMILE JOTTRAND, Mr. ALFRED GEORG and Mr. EDWARD A. FILENE.

President Canon-Legrand

Messieurs, la séance est ouverte. M. LAZARD demande la parole sur une question d'ordre.

(Translation)

Gentlemen, the session is opened. Mr. LAZARD asks for the floor on a question of order.

Mr. Louis Lazard, Chamber of Commerce, Brussels, Belgium

Mr. President and Gentlemen, on behalf of the Belgian delegation I want to say that we were very much disappointed in reading this morning in the Boston papers that the Belgian delegates support a gentleman who spoke yesterday about arbitration and interrupted our sympathetic President. We want it to go out that the Belgian delegates to this Congress are Mr. Paul Hagemans, Consul General of Belgium in the United States, in Philadelphia; Mr. Adolphe Charlet, Vice-President of the Chamber of Commerce of Brussels; Mr. Leon Chaussette of Brussels, Mr. Louis Lazard of Brussels, Mr. Louis Canon-Legrand, our President, Mr. Émile Jottrand, our General Secretary, and Mr. Charles Christophe from Ghent. We know no other delegate from Brussels, or from Belgium. We have thought it better that these few words should be said at the beginning of this morning's session, in order to avoid any misunderstanding. We do not want the delegates to think that we supported the gentleman who spoke yesterday and who is not known to the Belgian delegation. (Applause.)

Mr. Edward A. Filene, Vice-President, at this point read a letter from Mr. Edwin D. Mead stating his position in the matter.

INTERNATIONAL POSTAL REFORMS IN VIEW OF THE NEXT CONFERENCE OF THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION IN 1913

M. le Président: L'incident est clos. Nous abordons maintenant notre ordre du jour. Nous avons à parler des réformes postales internationales en vue de la prochaine conférence de l'Union Postale Universelle. Le rapporteur est M. Georg. Je tiens à répéter, messieurs, que si cette question a été remise à la séance de ce matin, c'est à la demande du Postmaster General des États-Unis, et non pas parce que M. Georg n'était pas prêt à donner lecture de son rapport aussitôt qu'on l'aurait voulu.

(Translation)

The incident is closed. We now take up the order of the day. We have to speak of international postal reforms in view of the next conference of the Universal Postal Union. The Reporter is Mr. Georg. I wish to repeat that if this question has been postponed to this morning's session, it is because of the request of the Postmaster-General of the United States, and not because Mr. Georg was unprepared to read us his report when it was wanted.

Mr. Alfred Georg, *Vice-President of the Geneva Chamber of Commerce*

Mr. President and Gentlemen:

As you have in hand the English translation of the report on International Postal Reforms, I beg leave to say in French, my own language, the few words that I wish to add in support of the proposed reforms.

(Continuing in French)

Monsieur le président et messieurs:

S'il est exact que nos congrès ont pour tâche d'étudier les moyens de faciliter le commerce international, vous estimerez avec moi qu'il est superflu de motiver longuement les propositions de réforme postale que vous avez sous les yeux. Ces propositions sont en quelque sorte la résultante des discussions, et je puis ajouter, des réclamations qui se sont produites depuis un certain nombre d'années dans le sein des Chambres de commerce, et d'autres associations similaires, de la plupart des pays commerçants de notre globe.

Évidemment, ces propositions sont loin de comprendre toutes les demandes qui ont été formulées à gauche ou à droite, et je comprendrais fort bien que l'un ou l'autre d'entre vous désirât compléter la liste des postulats exprimés dans la conclusion du rapport; mais, messieurs, dans un domaine aussi vaste que celui des relations postales internationales, il faut savoir se restreindre, en se disant qu'à chaque jour suffit sa peine, et qu'ici comme ailleurs, il convient de procéder par étapes. Qui trop embrasse mal étreint.

D'autres trouveront peut-être—et j'ai déjà entendu exprimer ici cette opinion—que nous demandons trop à la fois. À ceux-là je répondrai que, sans manquer de modestie, nous pouvons et nous devons demander aux États de l'Union Postale Universelle de réaliser des réformes dont la nécessité n'est plus contestable.

Les délégués au prochain congrès postal universel, représentants des administrations postales et du fisc de leur pays, objecteront que la plupart de nos demandes auront pour conséquence des diminutions de recettes auxquelles ils ne peuvent souscrire; mais à ces préoccupations d'ordre financier, nous opposons et nous continuerons d'opposer les besoins du commerce et de l'industrie, dont la poste est l'instrument et le véhicule le plus indispensable. Et nous pouvons ajouter que ces appréhensions fiscales—l'expérience de tous les pays l'a montrée—ne sont pas justifiées, ou tout au moins sont fort exagérées. Plaie d'argent n'est pas mortelle, et un nouveau développement des affaires, conséquence certaine de l'adoption des réformes que nous demandons, viendra rapidement combler les diminutions de recettes que redoutent les représentants du fisc.

Ceci dit, je passe aux questions spéciales qui font l'objet du rapport.

Si la présidence est d'accord, nous pourrions, en vue de faciliter les débats et les décisions finales, prendre l'une après l'autre les propositions formulées. Chacune d'elles n'exigera que quelques brefs commentaires.

(Translation)

Mr. President and Gentlemen:

If it is a fact that the task of our Congress is to study means of facilitating international commerce, you will agree with me that it is superfluous to argue at length the proposals for postal reforms which you have before you. These proposals are to some extent the outcome of debates, and I may add also, of complaints which have made their appearance from time to time among the chambers of commerce and other similar associations of most of the commercial countries of the world.

Clearly, these proposals are far from comprising all the demands which have been made from various directions, and I understand very well that some of you will wish to add to the list of suggestions formulated at the conclusion of the report; but, gentlemen, in a subject as wide as that of international postal relations we must exercise some restraint, and be as patient as possible, since here, as elsewhere, it will be easier to advance by stages. Who tries too much, succeeds poorly.

Others may possibly consider — and I have already heard the opinion expressed — that we are asking too much at a time. To these I would reply, with all due modesty, that we can and we should demand of the States of the Universal Postal Union the realization of the reforms whose necessity is no longer debatable.

The delegates to the approaching Universal Postal Union representing the postal and financial departments of their countries will object that most of our demands will have as a result a reduction of receipts to which they cannot consent; but to these financial considerations we oppose and we shall continue to oppose the needs of commerce and industry, of which the postal service is the most indispensable vehicle. And we may add that these apprehensions on the score of finance — the experience of all countries has demonstrated it — are not justified, or are at least much exaggerated. A wound in the pocketbook is not mortal, and the further development of business, the certain result of the adoption of the reforms which we ask, will speedily offset the diminished receipts which are feared by the representatives of the treasury.

After saying this I will now pass to the special questions which are the object of the report.

If the Chair is willing, we might in order to facilitate debate and final decision, take up the drafts of the resolutions one by one. Each of them will require but a few brief comments.

M. le Président: M. Georg, vous pourriez pour chaque proposition donner lecture dans les trois langues.

(Translation)

Mr. Georg, you may be able to give a reading of each of the proposed resolutions in the three languages.

M. Georg: Messieurs, pour la question No. 1, et en me référant aux explications qui se trouvent aux pages 5 et 6 du rapport, actuellement, en vertu de la convention postale universelle No. 1, la taxe de transport est de 25 centimes, ou leur équivalent, pour la lettre jusqu'à 20 grammes, avec supplément de 15 centimes pour chaque poids ou fraction de poids de 20 grammes. Or, le commerce demande une taxe uniforme de 10 centimes, soit, la taxe payée dans le trafic interne pour le même poids ou supplément de poids dans toute l'étendue de l'Union Postale, l'impôt étant calculé d'après le système métrique.

Vous savez que la lettre à 10 centimes — 2 cents, 1 penny, 10 pfennigs, etc. — a déjà été adoptée, pour une partie importante du trafic international et intercontinental, par la Grande Bretagne, par l'Allemagne, par l'Italie; sa généralisation contribuerait à donner à ce trafic un puissant essor, favorable à l'extension des relations commerciales.

Je vous propose donc d'émettre le vœu qui porte le No. 1 dans la conclusion du rapport. J'en donne lecture:

1. La taxe fixée par la convention postale universelle pour le transport des lettres sera abaissée de 25 centimes à 10 centimes, soit à la taxe d'affranchissement du service intérieur. Cette taxe d'affranchissement sera perçue par poids ou fraction de poids de 20 grammes dans toute l'étendue de l'Union Postale, le poids étant calculé d'après le système métrique.

(Translation)

Gentlemen, in regard to question No. 1 and referring to the explanations on pages 5 and 6 of the report I would say that at the present time, by virtue of Universal Postal agreement No. 1, the rate of postage is 25 centimes or its equivalent for a letter up to 20 grams in weight with an addition of 15 centimes for each 20 grams or fraction thereof. Commerce, however, requests a uniform rate of 10 centimes; in other words, the rate paid for domestic postage for the same weight or additional weight throughout the extent of the Postal Union, the tariff to be based according to the metric system.

You know that the letter rate of 10 centimes — 2 cents, 1 penny, 10 pfennig, and

so forth — has already been adopted for an important portion of international and inter-continental communications, by Great Britain, Germany, Italy, etc. Its generalization would suffice to give a decided impulse to this traffic to the advantage of the extension of commercial relations.

I therefore propose to pass the motion which is marked No. 1 at the conclusion of the report, and which I will now read:

1. The rate fixed by the Universal Postal Convention for the carriage of letters shall be reduced from 25 centimes to 10 centimes, that is, to the tariff rate for domestic postage. This tariff rate shall be collected by the weight or fraction of the weight of 20 grams throughout the extent of the Postal Union, the weight being calculated by the metric system.

M. le Président: Devons-nous, messieurs, faire la discussion sur ce point maintenant, ou aller jusqu'au bout et prendre le vote après? Je vous consulte sur ce point. Il est préférable d'aller jusqu'au bout, et nous reprendrons les points.

(Translation)

Gentlemen, shall we debate on this point now or continue to the end and vote afterwards? I beg to consult the meeting. It is preferable to continue to the end and we will go on with the items.

M. Georg: Je prends la question 2. Vous savez, monsieur le président et messieurs, que plusieurs des États signataires de la convention postale universelle de 1906 ont, au bénéfice du chiffre III du protocole final de cette convention, conservé les limites de poids et les taxes de la précédente convention postale de Washington. Il serait à désirer que ces États renoncent à cette prérogative, et c'est pourquoi nous avons formulé le deuxième vœu comme suit:

2. Les États signataires de la convention postale universelle de 1906, qui, au bénéfice du chiffre III du protocole final de cette convention, ont conservé les limites de poids et les taxes de la convention postale précédente, renonceront à ce régime d'exception.

Nous passons au No. 3. Il s'agit ici de la surtaxe en cas d'absence ou d'insuffisance d'affranchissement. L'article 5 de la convention universelle principale fixe au double de la taxe d'affranchissement la surtaxe à payer par le destinataire des lettres et des cartes postales non affranchies qui lui ont été adressées. En cas d'insuffisance, la surtaxe est fixée au double de cette insuffisance.

L'élévation de cette surtaxe lui donne le caractère d'une véritable amende, qui est d'autant moins justifiée que cette amende frappe le destinataire de la lettre, qui n'est, en aucun cas, fautif, si faute il y a. Nous savons d'ailleurs que le travail supplémentaire de la poste pour les envois de cette nature serait largement rétribué par une taxe beaucoup plus réduite, et c'est pour cela que nous avons formulé, sous le chiffre III, la proposition suivante:

3. Dans le trafic international, la surtaxe perçue par la poste pour absence ou insuffisance d'affranchissement des objets de la poste aux lettres sera fixée uniformément à 5 centimes.

Nous passons au No. 4: Remise au destinataire des lettres de provenance étrangère.

Messieurs, cette proposition a pu étonner quelques-uns d'entre vous. Il semble naturel qu'une lettre remise à un État de l'Union Postale par un autre État de l'Union Postale soit remise par lui au destinataire. Or, on m'a cité un cas — et j'ai eu en mains la preuve de l'exactitude du renseignement qui m'a été fourni — on m'a cité le cas d'une administration postale — c'était un État de l'Europe — qui, recevant d'une autre administration — disons de l'Australie — une lettre destinée à un habitant de cet État de l'Europe, que je n'indique pas, a retournée cette lettre en Australie, ne l'a pas livrée au destinataire, parce que l'adresse de cette lettre se trouvait sous une fenêtre transparente dont les conditions ne répondaient pas exactement aux prescriptions nationales du pays destinataire.

Messieurs, d'autres cas analogues de réglementation nationale peuvent se produire, et c'est pour cela que nous croyons absolument nécessaire de fixer cette règle, à savoir, qu'une

lettre que l'un des États de l'Union Postale remet à un autre État de l'Union doit être remise au destinataire, quelle que soit l'apparence extérieure de cette lettre. Il est bien entendu que l'apparence extérieure de la lettre ne doit pas être contraire aux bonnes mœurs et à l'ordre public; mais en dehors de ces exceptions, toute lettre remise à un État de l'Union Postale par un autre État doit être remise au destinataire. C'est pour cela que nous avons formulé la proposition suivante:

4. Les administrations postales des États de l'Union universelle remettront à leurs destinataires toutes les lettres fermées qui leur parviennent de l'étranger, alors même que l'apparence extérieure de ces lettres ne serait pas conforme à la réglementation postale du pays de destination.

Nous passons maintenant aux échantillons de marchandises. La convention postale universelle dispose que les échantillons de marchandises ne doivent pas dépasser le poids de 350 grammes et ne doivent pas avoir une valeur marchande. Messieurs, en prévoyant une taxe de transport réduite pour les échantillons de marchandises, on avait l'intention de favoriser le trafic de cette catégorie d'envoi; mais la condition spéciale à laquelle est liée la réduction de la taxe rend illusoire cette facilité dans des cas très nombreux. La plupart des échantillons ont, évidemment, une valeur marchande, si minime soit-elle, et le terme "valeur marchande" est tellement élastique que, nécessairement, il a donné lieu à des interprétations fort différentes dans les États de l'Union, et il en résulte des difficultés et des complications que nous voulons chercher à faire disparaître.

Ce n'est pas, disons-nous, l'absence de valeur, mais c'est la limitation de poids qui doit établir la distinction nécessaire entre cette catégorie d'envoi et les colis qui sont soumis aux taxes et aux formalités douanières.

Dans la plupart des pays, le commerce estime d'ailleurs insuffisante la limite actuelle de 350 grammes, et le congrès des Chambres de commerce répondrait à un vœu général en demandant l'élévation à 500 grammes de cette limite. Cette augmentation de poids **pourrait** être accordée d'autant plus facilement que dans certains pays les colis ne dépassant pas le poids de 500 grammes sont déjà actuellement exonérés des droits de douane. Il en est ainsi dans mon pays, la Suisse, entr'autres. Je vous propose par conséquent d'adopter les conclusions suivantes:

5. La disposition de l'article 55 de la Convention postale universelle I, disant que les échantillons de marchandises ne doivent pas avoir de valeur marchande, sera rapportée. La limite de poids des échantillons sera élevée à 500 grammes.

Nous arrivons à la question des colis postaux. La Convention postale universelle IV fixe à 5 kilogrammes la limite de poids des colis postaux. Le commerce international demande dans ce domaine de nouvelles facilités, déjà créées dans les relations postales entre certains pays. Il conviendrait de fixer à 10 kilogrammes — c'est la limite actuelle appliquée par les pays dont je parle — la limite de poids, tout en admettant pour les pays dont la législation intérieure n'admet pas le transport de colis supérieurs à un poids de 5 kilogrammes le droit de maintenir la limite de 5 kilogrammes.

La limite du poids de 10 kilogrammes étant ainsi devenue la règle générale, il conviendrait de créer une catégorie spéciale de colis postaux accélérés d'un poids maximum de 1 kilogramme, et qui, moyennant une taxe spéciale, seraient transportés par voie rapide. On donnerait ainsi satisfaction à un vœu général du commerce tendant au transport par la poste aux lettres d'échantillons allant jusqu'au poids d'un kilo, vœu dont la prise en considération s'est heurtée jusqu'à ce jour à des objections d'ordre douanier. Ces objections ne seraient pas opposables à l'innovation projetée des colis postaux de 1 kilo, qui resteraient soumis, eux, au contrôle douanier.

Je vous propose par conséquent d'adopter le vœu suivant:

7. La convention universelle établira une catégorie spéciale de colis postaux d'un poids maximum de 1 kilogramme et qui, moyennant une taxe spéciale, seront transportés par voie accélérée.

Nous arrivons à la question du retard des colis postaux. Messieurs, alors que la convention universelle concernant l'échange des colis postaux assure ces colis dans une mesure précise, déterminée, contre la perte, contre la spoliation et contre l'avarie, cette même convention ne contient aucune disposition engageant la responsabilité des administrations en cas de retard de livraison des colis postaux. Le retard n'engage la responsabilité du transporteur que pour autant que le colis est considéré comme perdu, c'est-à-dire au terme d'une année seulement après la réclamation pour cause de retard.

Messieurs, le commerce international souffre de cette lacune. On réaliserait donc un grand progrès en admettant un terme raisonnable au delà duquel la responsabilité des administrations serait engagée. Le délai pourrait être différent selon la distance, et particulièrement si le pays de destination est un pays d'outremer. À la rigueur, on pourrait, comme il est indiqué dans le rapport, prélever une modeste surtaxe qui serait perçue de l'expéditeur qui a un intérêt spécial à ce que la marchandise arrive en temps voulu. Mais, messieurs, il paraît absolument anormal et inadmissible qu'un dommage, qui peut être très considérable pour l'expéditeur ou le destinataire d'un colis postal, dommage résultant d'un retard considérable dans la livraison, n'engage en aucune manière la responsabilité des administrations postales.

Nous vous proposons par conséquent d'adopter le vœu suivant:

8. La convention postale universelle imposera aux États de l'Union un délai de livraison raisonnable des colis postaux, différent selon les pays de destination, et au delà duquel la responsabilité des administrations postales sera engagée.

Messieurs, après la publication de ce rapport, il y a quelque temps déjà, il m'a été demandé de compléter ces vœux par quatre autres demandes, que je vais vous indiquer et motiver brièvement.

Les vœux qui m'ont été transmis émanent de l'Union des Chambres de commerce allemandes, et en partie de la Chambre de commerce de Francfort. Je tiens à ajouter que les demandes qui ont été formulées de ces côtés, je les considère, en ce qui me concerne, comme entièrement acceptables, et je désire vivement que le congrès veuille bien y donner son assentiment.

Il s'agit d'abord de l'affranchissement des papiers d'affaires. Comme vous le savez, la convention universelle prévoit un affranchissement de 5 centimes par 50 grammes pour les papiers d'affaires, mais en fixant un minimum de taxe de 25 centimes correspondant à un poids de 250 grammes. Or, messieurs, le commerce estime qu'il n'a pas à payer ce minimum alors qu'il fait transporter des papiers d'affaires d'un poids de beaucoup inférieur, et il demande la suppression de cette limitation de poids de 250 grammes et du minimum de taxe de 25 centimes. Il formule la proposition suivante:

"L'affranchissement des papiers d'affaires sera fixée, comme pour les imprimés, à 5 centimes pour chaque poids ou fraction de poids de 50 grammes — sans affranchissement minimum de 25 centimes."

Je passe à la deuxième demande qui m'a été adressée:

"L'acceptation d'envois grevés de remboursement sera obligatoire pour tous les pays de l'Union postale."

Messieurs, vous savez qu'en l'état actuel des choses la convention internationale permet aux États signataires de la convention d'accepter ou de refuser les envois grevés de remboursement, et également de fixer la limite de la valeur des remboursements. Nous demandons que dans tous les cas, l'acceptation d'envois grevés de remboursement soit obligatoire pour tous les États de l'Union.

L'avant-dernière proposition est la suivante:

"La poste est responsable pour les envois grevés de remboursement dont elle s'est dessaisie sans perception du montant du remboursement."

Messieurs, beaucoup d'entre vous ignorent absolument que dans le trafic international, lorsqu'une administration a accepté un envoi grevé d'un remboursement et qu'elle a livré cet envoi sans se faire payer, pour tout ou partie de la valeur du remboursement, elle n'est pas responsable vis-à-vis de l'expéditeur. C'est là une situation absolument anormale, contraire aux principes élémentaires du droit, et nous demandons que les administrations qui ont accepté un envoi grevé d'un remboursement soient responsables jusqu'à concurrence du montant de ce remboursement.

Enfin, dans la dernière question, il s'agit des colis postaux avec valeur déclarée. Nous demandons que toutes les administrations signataires de la convention concernant les colis postaux soient tenues d'accepter les colis avec valeur déclarée.

Je crois que cette proposition n'a pas besoin d'être motivée autrement; il est évident que le commerce international a un grand intérêt à ce que cette proposition soit acceptée. Les administrations signataires de la convention concernant les colis postaux seront tenus d'accepter les colis avec valeur déclarée.

Messieurs, j'ai terminé.

(Translation)

I will now take up question 2. As you know, Mr. President and gentlemen, several of the signatory States of the Universal Postal Convention of 1906 have by virtue of clause III of the final protocol of this convention preserved the weight limits and the tariffs of the preceding Postal Convention at Washington. It is desirable that these States give up this privilege and it is on this account that we have drawn up the second motion which is as follows:

2. The States subscribing to the Universal Postal Convention of 1906 which, by virtue of item III of the final protocol of this agreement have retained the limits of weight and the rates of the preceding postal agreement shall renounce this exceptional practice.

We will now pass to No. 3. The question is here of the additional charge in the case of lack of postage, or insufficient prepayment of postage. Article 5 of the main universal convention fixes the extra charge to be paid by the addressee of letters and postal cards upon which postage has not been prepaid at double the tariff rate. In case of insufficient postage the extra charge is fixed at double the deficiency.

The high rate of this extra charge gives it actually the character of a fine which is moreover the less justifiable since it falls upon the addressee of the letter, who is not to blame if there is any blame. We know, moreover, that the extra work occasioned to the Post-Office Department by postal matter of this description would be well compensated by a far lower charge, and for this reason we have formulated under item III the following motion:

3. In international postage, the additional charge collected by the postal service for the absence or insufficiency of postage on articles of letter mail, shall be fixed uniformly at 5 centimes.

This brings us to No. 4. The delivery to the addressee of letters of foreign origin.

Gentlemen, this proposal may astonish some of you. It appears natural that a letter delivered to a State of the Postal Union by another State of the Postal Union should be delivered by the former to the addressee. However, a case has been cited to me — and I have had in my hands the proof of the correctness of the information — where a Postal Department of one of the European countries which received from another department, for instance, Australia, a letter intended for a resident of this European country which I will not name, has returned this letter to Australia, and has not delivered it to the addressee, because the address of the letter happened to be under a transparent window so that the conditions did not exactly conform to the national regulations of the country of destination.

Gentlemen, other analogous cases of domestic regulations might occur, and it is for

that reason that we consider it absolutely necessary to cite this rule, viz., that a letter from one of the States of the Postal Union forwarded to another State of the Union must be delivered to the addressee, regardless of the exterior appearance of this letter. It is of course understood that the exterior appearance of the letter must not be contrary to good morals or public order; but with these exceptions every letter delivered to one State of the Postal Union by another State of the Postal Union must be delivered to the addressee. It is for this reason that we have proposed the following:

4. The postal administrations of the States belonging to the Universal Union shall deliver to the addressees all sealed letters which come to them from abroad, even when the exterior of these letters does not conform to the postal regulations of the country of destination.

We will now come to the subject of merchandise samples. The Universal Postal Convention No. 1 provides that samples of merchandise may not exceed the weight of 350 grams and must not have a merchantable value. Gentlemen, in permitting a reduced rate for the transportation of samples of merchandise the intention was to favor this traffic; but the special condition with which this reduction of tariff was linked has rendered its benefits illusory in many cases. It is clear that the majority of samples must have a merchantable value, even though small, and the term "merchantable value" is so elastic that it has, necessarily, given rise to very varying interpretations in the different States of the Union, resulting in difficulties and complications which we desire to abolish.

In our judgment, it is not the absence of value, but the limitation of weight, which should establish the distinction between this class of package and the shipments which are subject to customs duties and formalities.

In most countries the business world considers the present weight limit of 350 grams to be insufficient and the Congress of Chambers of Commerce will respond to a general wish in demanding the raising of this limit to 500 grams. This increase of weight might be permitted the more easily since in some countries packages not exceeding 500 grams in weight are already exempt from customs duties. It is thus in my own country, Switzerland, for instance. I therefore ask you to adopt the following resolution:

5. The provision of article 55 of the Universal Postal Convention I, reading that samples of merchandise must have no merchantable value, shall be repealed. The limit of weight for samples shall be raised to 500 grams.

This brings us to the question of postal parcels. Universal Postal Convention IV fixes the limit of weight for postal parcels at 5 kilograms. International business asks in this respect increased facilities, already provided by the postal arrangements between certain countries. It would be satisfactory to fix this limit of weight at 10 kilograms — this is the limit at present allowed by the countries to which I refer — while permitting countries whose interior regulations do not permit the transportation of packages exceeding 5 kilograms to retain the limit of 5 kilograms.

The limit of weight of 10 kilograms having become the general rule, it would be desirable to create a special classification of express postal parcels, with a maximum weight of 1 kilogram, which, in consideration of a special rate, should be carried by a quicker way. This would satisfy a general desire of the business world for the carriage by letter post of samples up to the weight of 1 kilogram, a desire the consideration of which has up to now been hindered by objections arising out of the customs arrangements. These objections would not lie against the proposed innovation of postal packages of 1 kilogram which would themselves remain subject to the customs regulations.

I therefore suggest the adoption of the following motion:

7. The Universal Convention shall establish a special category of postal parcels of a maximum weight of 1 kilogram which, in consideration of a special rate, shall be shipped by a more rapid route.

We now come to the question of delay in delivery of postal parcels. While the Universal Convention regarding the interchange of postal parcels insures these parcels to a definite, fixed extent, against loss, theft and damage, this same convention contains no provision, pledging the responsibility of the postal departments in case of delay in the delivery of postal parcels. A delay only renders the carrier liable when the package is considered as lost, that is, after the period of one year from the filing of the claim for delay.

Gentlemen, international commerce suffers from this omission. A great advance would be accomplished by providing a reasonable term beyond which the postal administration would become responsible. The term might be varied according to the distance, particularly if the country of destination is across the sea. If necessary, as pointed out in the report, a reasonable extra charge might be levied on the sender who is particularly interested to have his goods arrive at the desired time. But, gentlemen, it seems entirely abnormal and inadmissible that a loss, which might be quite considerable to the sender or consignee of a postal parcel, a loss resulting from a considerable delay in delivery, should not in any way involve the responsibility of the postal departments.

We therefore propose for adoption the following resolution:

8. The Universal Postal Convention shall impose on the States of the Union a reasonable period for the delivery of postal parcels, varying according to the country of destination, beyond which the postal administration shall be responsible.

After the publication of this report, which is now some time since, I have been asked to complete these resolutions by the addition of four other demands, which I shall briefly state and explain.

The resolutions which were sent to me emanate from the German Union of Chambers of Commerce, and in part from the Frankfort Chamber of Commerce. I wish to add that the requests formulated by these bodies appear to me, as far as I am concerned, to be entirely acceptable, and I desire sincerely that the Congress may see fit to lend its approval.

These refer first to the mailing of business papers. As you know, the Universal Convention provides a carriage of 5 centimes for 50 grams for business papers, but fixes a minimum charge of 25 centimes, corresponding to a weight of 250 grams. Now, gentlemen, business men consider that they should not have to pay this minimum rate when sending business papers of a much lower weight, and desire the abolition of this limitation of weight of 250 grams and of the minimum charge of 25 centimes. They word the proposal as follows:

"The rate for business papers should be fixed, as for printed matter, at 5 centimes for each 50 grams or fraction thereof (without the minimum tax of 25 centimes)."

I will now proceed to the second demand which was sent to me:

"Packages for collection on delivery shall be accepted in all the countries of the Postal Union."

Gentlemen, under the present conditions, the International Convention permits the signatory States to accept or refuse packages for collection on delivery, and likewise to set a limit of value for such collections. We ask that in all cases the acceptance of packages for collection on delivery shall be obligatory for all the States of the Union.

The last proposal but one is the following:

"The Postal Department is responsible for parcels sent for collection on delivery and which it has delivered without collection of the amount of the charge."

Gentlemen, many of you are not aware that in international traffic where a department has accepted a parcel for collection on delivery and has delivered this package

without obtaining payment of the whole or part of the value of the charge, it is not responsible to the sender. This is an entirely abnormal situation, contrary to elementary principles of law, and we demand that departments which have accepted a parcel charged for collection shall be responsible until the return of the amount of the collection.

Finally, the last question refers to postal packages with a declared value. We request that all the administrations who signed the convention be held to accept such packages with a declared value.

I believe that this proposal does not need any further justification: It is evident that international commerce would be greatly interested to have this suggestion adopted. The administrations which signed the convention relative to postal parcels should be held to accept these packages with a declared value.

That is all, gentlemen.

M. le Président: M. Brett n'est pas ici? Nous avons remis la question à aujourd'hui afin du lui donner l'occasion de parler sur le sujet. Il n'est pas ici, nous allons passer.

Nous avons une courte lettre à lire d'un délégué de la Havane:

(Translation)

Mr. Brett is not here? We had postponed the subject to to-day in order to afford him an opportunity to be heard. As he is not here, we will proceed.

We have a short letter to read from a delegate from Havana:

MONSIEUR CANON-LEGRAND,

President of the Congress.

Dear Sir: In behalf of the Chamber of Commerce of Havana, Island of Cuba, we offer our hearty support to the reform propositions of Dr. Georg in his able paper, and we wish especially to emphasize the recommendation of this Congress to the Postal Congress to be held in Madrid in 1913 for the "Extension of domestic rates of postage on first-class matter to international correspondence within the Postal Union," such extension to begin if possible by the first of January, 1915.

Respectfully submitted,

J. M. ANDREINI,

CARLOS ARNOLDSON,

*Delegates Chamber of Commerce
Havana, Cuba.*

M. le Président: M. MANES est inscrit, je lui donne la parole. Je prie les orateurs d'être aussi courts que possible et de borner leur temps de parole à cinq minutes. (*Applaudissements.*)

(Translation)

Mr. MANES is registered and I give him the floor. I would ask the speakers to be as brief as possible and to limit their speeches to five minutes. (*Applause.*)

Herr Hugo Manes, Association of Export Houses, Frankfort-on-the-Main

Meine Herren! Die Postfrage, welche wir heute zu behandeln haben, ist meiner Ansicht nach eine der wichtigsten, die den internationalen Handelskammer-Kongreß beschäftigt. Es ist heutzutage nötig, daß man sich einen Techniker anschafft, um zu studieren, was die einzelnen Porto-Sätze in den verschiedenen Staaten sind. Der Zustand, der augenblicklich herrscht, besteht seit 37 Jahren. Es hat sich in dieser Zeit sehr viel verändert, so daß ich dem, was Dr. Georg gesagt hat, vollständig beistimmen kann, um zu bitten, daß der Internationale Kongreß beschließe, daß unter allen Umständen das Weltporto einheitlich wird. Ich kann unter keinen Umständen, da uns nur fünf Minuten Redezeit aufgelegt sind, Beispiele anführen, die die Unannehmlichkeit der Verschiedenheit des Portos zum Ausdruck bringen.

Ich komme nun zu verschiedenen Anträgen, die speziell in dem Paragraph 5 enthalten sind. Da vermisse ich, daß der Herr Berichterstatter etwas eingefügt hat, was eigentlich unter allen Umständen gebracht werden mußte, und ich möchte Herrn Georg bitten, vielleicht hinzuzufügen, daß bei Artikel 5 der Internationale Kongreß wünscht, daß bezüglich der Versendung von Klischees, dieselben unter allen Umständen, da sie keinen Handelswert besitzen, als Muster ohne Wert behandelt werden. Es ist uns bis heute in Deutschland nicht gelungen, die deutsche Reichspost dazu zu bringen, daß diese Klischees als Muster ohne Wert versendet werden. Wir haben dadurch die größten Schwierigkeiten mit unseren ausländischen Kunden, weil, abgesehen vom Porto, die Kunden gezwungen sind, auf die Zollämter zu gehen und die Sendung zu verzollen.

(Translation)

Gentlemen, the question of postage which we are treating to-day is in my opinion one of the most important which engages the attention of the International Congress of Chambers of Commerce. It is necessary at the present time to employ an expert to study out the postal regulations of the various States. This situation has existed for 37 years. There have been many changes in this time so that I can fully agree in Dr. Georg's proposal to ask the International Congress to resolve that the international postage should be uniform in every way. As only five minutes' time is allowed it is impossible for me to quote examples showing the inconveniences resulting from the variation in postal tariffs.

This brings us to the various motions contained in paragraph 5. It seems to me that the esteemed Reporter has omitted an addition which is quite essential, and I should like to ask Mr. Georg if he will not add to Article 5 that, in relation to the mailing of electrotypes, these should be accepted in all cases for mailing as "samples without value" since they possess no merchantable value. We have not as yet succeeded in Germany in persuading the Imperial post-office to accept these cuts as "samples without value." This occasions considerable difficulty with our foreign customers, since, even regardless of the rate, the customers are obliged to go to the custom-house and to pay duties.

M. Georg: Je désire dire que je suis absolument d'accord avec l'honorable préopinant que ses clichés devraient être acceptés comme échantillons sans valeur, mais j'estime que nous ne pouvons pas préciser dans la proposition, parce que si nous le faisons sur ce point spécial, d'autres viendraient immédiatement avec d'autres catégories de produits dont le transport à bon marché et dans des conditions faciles s'impose tout autant que celui-là. Je crois que nous devons verser aux débats les déclarations de l'honorable préopinant, mais que nous ne pouvons pas l'introduire dans la proposition que nous avons formulée.

(Translation)

I wish to say that I am entirely agreed with the esteemed speaker, that his electros should be accepted as "samples without value," but I feel that we cannot well state this proposition in detail, because if we should do so on one special detail, others would immediately propose other classes of products whose cheap carriage, under convenient conditions, would be as important as this. I believe that we may admit in our discussion the statements of the speaker, but that we cannot introduce it into the resolution which we have drawn up.

M. le Président: Je pense que c'est précisément de cette façon que nous devons envisager la discussion. Nous ne sommes pas ici des spécialistes en matières postales, nous sommes des membres de Chambres de commerce ou d'associations commerciales ou industrielles. Il y aura une réunion de spécialistes en matière de poste, et il me paraît difficile que, nous, constitués comme nous le sommes, nous discussions en détail tous ces points spéciaux. Je serais absolument de l'avis que vient d'émettre M. Georg de verser tout ceci comme documents

pour le congrès spécial qui doit se tenir l'an prochain. Si nous entrons dans la discussion point par point, nous serions encore ici demain matin. N'est-ce pas votre avis, messieurs? (*Applaudissements.*)

(*Translation*)

I think this is exactly the course along which we should direct our discussion. We are not here as specialists in postal matters; we are members of chambers of commerce or commercial and industrial associations. There is to be a meeting of specialists in postal matters, and it seems difficult for us, made up as we are, to discuss all these special points. I am entirely of the opinion expressed by Mr. Georg to forward all these opinions as documents to the special Congress which is to be held next year. If we enter on the discussion point by point, we should still be here to-morrow morning. Is this not your opinion, gentlemen? (*Applause.*)

M. Manes: Alors, vous ne permettez pas que je continue?

(*Translation*)

Then, you will not permit me to continue?

M. le Président: Oui, oui; seulement, nous n'adopterons pas de résolution à cet effet, nous verserons ces remarques comme document.

(*Translation*)

Yes, certainly; but we shall not adopt a resolution to this effect, we will record these remarks as a document.

Herr Hugo Manes: Meine Herren! Wir haben hier fernerhin den Paragraphen 6, das Gewicht der Postpakete betreffend. Das ist eine Sache, die meiner Ansicht nach ebenfalls durchgeführt werden muß, nur fehlt hier etwas, was unseren Exporteuren manchmal sehr viel Schaden und Unannehmlichkeiten macht, nämlich, das von einigen Staaten eingeführte ganz besondere Größenmaß. Es gibt verschiedene Postverwaltungen, die unsere Postsendungen refusieren, wenn die Höhe oder Länge auch nur um einige Zentimeter differiert, und da handelt es sich speziell um die Sendungen, die bis zu 5 Kilometer gehen. Was ich verlange, ist, daß der Post-Kongreß darauf Obacht gibt, daß diese rigorösen Bestimmungen bezüglich geringen Unterschieds in den Größenmaßen bei den Postsendungen von der Tagesordnung verschwinden.

Dann handelt es sich hier noch um eine Frage, die ich zur Sprache bringen möchte, das ist die Schadenersatzpflicht der Postverwaltung für Einschreibesendungen, die dem Empfänger ohne Inhalt überliefert werden. Im Artikel 8 des Weltpostvertrages heißt es: „Geht eine Einschreibesendung verloren, so hat der Absender, oder auf dessen Verlangen der Empfänger den Fall höherer Gewalt ausgenommen, Anspruch auf eine Entschädigung von 50 Franken.“ In meiner Praxis ist es verschiedene Male und in verschiedenen Ländern vorgekommen, daß kleine Gegenstände von Waren, die einen bestimmten Wert haben, in registrierten Briefen geschickt wurden und behauptet wurde, daß diese Briefe ohne Inhalt abgeliefert wurden. Es fragt sich, ob die Postverwaltung nicht dafür verantwortlich ist, daß der Empfänger das Recht hat, die vollständige Sendung zu erhalten. Die deutsche Reichspostverwaltung hat auf meine Reklamation geantwortet, daß das nicht ginge, und ich möchte daher den Bericht-erstatte bitten, eine kurze Bemerkung hinzuzufügen, daß die Schadenersatzpflicht der Postverwaltung für derartige Einschreibesendungen in vollem Maße existiert.

(*Translation*)

Gentlemen, we now come to paragraph 6 relative to the weight of postal parcels. This is also a matter which, in my opinion, ought to be carried out, but one detail is omitted, — a question which has often caused our exporters loss and annoyance, — namely, the restrictions of some countries regarding dimensions. There are some

post-office departments who refusé our packages should the height or length be only a few centimeters out of the way, and this concerns particularly the packages of up to 5 kilograms. What I would like would be to have the postal congress take into consideration the repeal of these stringent regulations regarding trifling variations in the dimensions of packages.

Still another question which I would like to mention is the liability of the postal service for registered packages which are delivered to the addressee without their contents. Article 8 of the International Postal Convention says: "In case of the loss of a registered package the sender or, at his request, the addressee, has right to claim compensation up to 50 francs, except in the case of force major." In my experience it has happened several times and in different countries, that small articles having a definite value were mailed as registered packages and it was claimed that these packages were delivered minus their contents. The question is whether the post-office department is not liable to deliver to the addressee the entire parcel. The German Imperial Postal Department replied to my claim that this was not the case, and I should therefore like to ask our Reporter if he will not add a short note to the effect that the liability of the post-office for such registered packages should cover the entire parcel.

M. le Président: M. SHONINGER a la parole.

(*Translation*)

Mr. SHONINGER has the floor.

Mr. Bernard J. Shoninger, *American Chamber of Commerce of Paris*

The position of the American Chamber of Commerce of Paris and the experience of its members places it particularly well in a position to speak authoritatively on this subject, and the delegates for whom I speak can only express admiration for the wonderful care and study that has been given this question by Mr. Georg. And while we thoroughly understand the difficulties — because we of the Chamber have asked at different times certain things from certain governments to facilitate commercial intercourse, and we know that these questions are fundamentally part of commercial intercourse and commercial exchange — therefore we think that we should not make the attainment of our aims more difficult by adding to the already large number of proposals that are embodied in these eight propositions. We therefore heartily recommend to all the members of the Congress to endorse and adopt unanimously the propositions as proposed, without any further modification. (*Applause.*)

The President: The next speaker on my list is Mr. KENT.

Mr. A. Barton Kent, *London Chamber of Commerce*

I will take but half a minute, as we are all, I feel absolutely sure, in accord with the propositions presented by Dr. Georg. But I thought it might be of interest to tell you that I was dining at the annual banquet of the French Chamber of Commerce in London the other day, when a high functionary of the postal telegraph at Paris was present, also Mr. Samuel, the Postmaster-General of England. Naturally, one of the subjects of discussion was the reduction of the rate of postage on letters between England and France, and the Frenchmen hoped that we should get this rate of 10 centimes for 20 grams between England and France alone. I very much regret to say that the English Postmaster-General pointed out that even between France and England that would involve the English government in a loss of about £300,000 — I think that is \$1,500,000 — and we could not afford it. I was surprised and shocked to hear it when I believe that his department makes a profit of four millions

sterling a year. That is only to point out to you that though we must all be agreed on these questions, I am afraid there is not much hope of their being accepted by all other nations when poor little England cannot afford it. (*Laughter.*)

M. le Président: J'ai encore deux orateurs inscrits, et pour ne pas prolonger le débat, je vous propose de clore le nombre des orateurs. (*Applaudissements.*) Je n'en admettrai plus.

(*Translation*)

I have still two speakers registered, and in order not to prolong the debate, I would suggest the closing of the number of speakers. (*Applause.*) I shall not admit any others.

M. EDUARDO AGUSTI, of Barcelona.

M. Eduardo Agusti, *Chamber of Commerce of Barcelona, Spain*

Monsieur le Président, messieurs, je viens apporter mon petit grain de sable à ce congrès. Je suis venu ici plein de bonne volonté et si . . .

(*Translation*)

Mr. President, Gentlemen, I wish to add my little grain of sand to the Congress. I have come here full of good will and if . . .

M. le Président: À la question.

(*Translation*)

To the question.

M. Agusti: Je désire donc émettre trois vœux: l'un d'eux est peut-être compris dans la première proposition du rapport de M. Georg. Si la proposition No. 1 de M. Georg n'est pas adoptée, nous pourrions peut-être du moins adopter celle-ci.

(*Translation*)

I desire therefore to offer three resolutions: one of them is perhaps covered by the first proposition of Mr. Georg's report. If resolution No. 1 of Mr. Georg is not adopted, we might possibly at least adopt the one which I offer.

M. le Président: Nous ne voterons pas sur les points séparés.

(*Translation*)

We cannot vote on single items.

M. Agusti: Premièrement, étendre aux pays limitrophes les taxes du pays propre.

Secondement, que les cartes postales que l'on vend dans les débits publics soient vendues avec le timbre dessus, de sorte que l'on n'ait qu'à écrire la carte postale et la mettre à la poste.

Troisièmement, que les timbres, dans tous les pays de l'union postale universelle, soient interchangeables.

(*Translation*)

First, to extend to neighboring countries the postal tariff of the country itself.

Second, that the postal cards sold by vendors generally may be sold with the stamp thereon, so that one would only have to write on the card and mail it.

Third, that postage stamps should be interchangeable throughout the countries of the Universal Postal Union.

M. le Président: M. le Dr. ALMEIDA a la parole.

(Translation)

Dr. ALMEIDA has the floor.

Dr Candido de Mendes de Almeida, Delegate of the Government of Brazil

Messieurs, je suis chargé par l'Union des conseillers de mon pays de les représenter pour une chose qui intéresse toute les Chambres de commerce du monde. Je sais que je ne peux pas faire des amendements, je ne veux faire que des vœux.

(Translation)

Gentlemen, I am asked by the Union of Councillors of my country to represent them in a matter which interests all the chambers of commerce of the world. I know that I am not allowed to make amenduents. I only wish to express some wishes.

M. le Président: Qui seront déposés comme documents?

(Translation)

Which will be filed as documents?

Dr. Almeida: Oui, c'est cela. Alors le désir est que la franchise postale soit donnée à toutes les publications officielles des Chambres de commerce, des Fédérations commerciales, des bulletins, départements officiels et statistiques commerciales, de façon que ces publications puissent passer d'un pays à l'autre avec la franchise postale intégrale.

(Translation)

Yes, that's it. The wish is then that the postal franchise be given to all official publications of the chambers of commerce, of commercial federations, bulletins, official departments and commercial statistics, so that these publications may go from one country to another with complete postal franchise.

M. le Président: Vous pouvez le demander. Je doute fort que vous l'obteniez.

(Translation)

You may ask that. I have strong doubts if you will get it.

Dr. Almeida: C'est le vœu. C'est l'intérêt de tous les pays d'avoir tous ces renseignements. Alors le vœu est seulement que ces communications-là soient présentées à la convention postale ainsi que toutes les publications officielles des Fédérations commerciales, de Chambres de commerce et des départements officiels des pays.

(Translation)

That is the wish. It is to the interest of all countries to have all such information. The wish is then only that those should be presented to the postal convention, as well as all official publications of the commercial federations, of the chambers of commerce and of the official departments of nations.

M. le Président: La discussion est donc close. Vous avez entendu les différents orateurs, vous avez vu le dépôt de leurs documents; je vous propose donc de passer une résolution dans ce sens, et que le comité permanent ait pour mission d'attirer l'attention du Bureau International de l'Union Postale sur les dépôts qui ont été faits au cours de cette séance et de verser à ce bureau les documents que nous avons reçus à ce sujet.

Je propose donc d'avoir la résolution suivante:

"Le comité permanent sera instruit de présenter à l'attention de l'Union Postale Universelle toutes les questions de réforme postale qui ont été considérées dans ce congrès."

(Translation)

The discussion is then closed. You have heard the different speakers. You have seen the text of their documents and I would propose the passage of a resolution in that sense, that the Permanent Committee should have authority to draw the attention of the International Bureau of the Postal Union to the propositions which have been presented in the course of this sitting, and to turn over to that bureau the documents we have received on the subject.

I propose, therefore, the following resolution:

"The Permanent Committee shall be instructed to bring to the attention of the Universal Postal Union all the questions of postal reform that have been discussed at this Congress."

M. le Président: M. le rapporteur GEORG a la parole.

(Translation)

The Reporter, Mr. GEORG, has the floor.

M. Georg: Je pense que vous êtes tous d'accord que je demande à la présidence de vouloir bien faire mettre au vote les propositions qui sont consignées dans le rapport que je vous ai présenté tout à l'heure.

(Translation)

I believe you will all agree that I may request the Chair to be so kind as to take a vote on the propositions which appear in the report that I presented to you a short time ago.

M. le Président: Si nous votons point par point?

(Translation)

A vote on each point?

M. Georg: Non, il a été convenu au début que nous voterions sur l'ensemble de ces propositions, et que les observations formulées seraient versées au débat.

(Translation)

No, we have agreed at the outset that we vote on the ensemble of the proposition, and that the observations made would be deposited at the desk.

M. le Président: Oui. Je demande donc de passer un vote sur l'ensemble des propositions, étant entendu que les observations formulées après seront versées au débat à titre de documents. Est-ce que la chose est bien comprise? Ceux qui sont d'avis de voter la résolution dans ce sens, qu'ils veulent bien lever la main. (*Levée de mains générale.*) L'épreuve contraire. (*Personne ne lève la main.*) Il n'y a donc pas d'opposition; en conséquence la question est ainsi vidée.

(Translation)

Yes. I request then a vote on the ensemble of the propositions, it being understood that the observations expressed afterward shall be deposited at the desk as documents. Is the matter well understood? Those who favor the resolution in this sense, please raise their hands. (*General raising of hands.*) Any opposition? (*No hands are raised.*) Then there is no opposition; as a result the question is thus settled.

THE DESIRABILITY OF INTERNATIONAL UNIFORMITY OF ACTION IN THE MATTER OF CONSULAR INVOICES

M. le Président: M. THOMAS SAMMONS remplace le rapporteur M. W. J. Carr.

(*Translation*)

Mr. THOMAS SAMMONS takes the place of the Reporter, Mr. W. J. Carr.

(*Mr. Thomas Sammons is called and has the floor.*)

Hon. Thomas Sammons, *United States Consul General, Yokohama, Japan*

Gentlemen:

An honor has been suddenly thrust upon me in being selected to present to this distinguished assemblage the question of uniformity in consular invoices. The ideal consular service of the world to-day contemplates the maintenance of a capable body of trained men who are chiefly concerned in the promotion and extension of trade. Therefore, and because of his extended knowledge of the subject, I deeply regret that the director of the consular service of the State Department of my government is unable to be present. While Mr. Carr, I am sure, could learn much from you, gentlemen, I am also equally confident that he could contribute much of interest.

In medieval times the consular service was concerned in the adjustment of trade troubles, and the same condition of affairs practically continues to-day. The consular service, the world over, and of all nations, is very fortunate in finding a good friend in the International Chambers of Commerce when it becomes necessary or desirable to take up a question of the kind which Mr. Carr has reported on.

While there are many questions involved with reference to consular invoices and consular fees, the chief step, the important step, which may possibly be taken here and now, is with reference to simplification and unification of consular invoices. Having that thought in mind, I will summarize the report made by Mr. Carr, which calls attention to the fact that this subject has been taken up at four sessions of the International Conference of American States, and at the last conference formal action was taken approving uniformity and simplicity in a consular invoice which would save much time, save much misunderstanding, also would cost less money if it were accepted and adopted. And the opinion prevails that if action were taken by this distinguished body in favor of uniformity and simplicity, that then the various countries concerned — and in fact all the exporting countries of the world are concerned — would gradually fall into line and accept the form which has been approved after careful study running over four or five years.

That form has been placed before you in Mr. Carr's report. It will be unnecessary for me to go into details. The matter is entirely before you and you are ready to act thereon. I would only say the question of simplicity and uniformity, putting aside all other questions with reference to fees, with reference to whether a consular invoice is a good thing or not, is before us to-day; and I trust that we may be able to act in favor of uniformity and simplicity.

I thank you.

M. le Président: M. MANUEL JACINTHO FERREIRA DA CUNHA a la parole.

(*Translation*)

Mr. MANUEL JACINTHO FERREIRA DA CUNHA has the floor.

M. M. J. Ferreira da Cunha, *Consul General of Brazil, New York, N. Y.*: Je fais désistance de la parole, je ne peux pas parler.

(Translation)

I will give up the floor; I cannot speak.

M. le Président: Vous ne voulez pas parler, vous vous désistez?

(Translation)

You do not wish to speak, — you yield the floor?

M. M. J. Ferreira da Cunha: Oui, monsieur.

(Translation)

Yes, sir.

Dr. Edmund Kunosi, *Assistant Secretary in the Royal Hungarian Ministry of Commerce; Delegate of Royal Government of Hungary*

The question of unifying consular invoices may be called an essentially American question, because invoices provided with a consular *visé* are predominantly requested in the American Republics.

The question has, of course, too, an international character, inasmuch as it is also of considerable interest to nations importing into the American states that the regulations referring to the consular legalization of invoices by the American states should be stipulated in a manner which will cause to trade as little vexation as possible.

The most ideal international regulation of consular invoices will be to abolish them entirely. (*Cries of "Hear, hear!"*) We in Hungary abolish them almost entirely except in the most exceptional cases. Nevertheless, this is the ideal.

First, I must in the interest of redressing those complaints made against consular invoices which prompted the manager of the Honorable Congress to put this question on the order of the day, readily second the proposition lying before the Honorable Congress according to which the Congress should express its desire to fix uniform regulations with regard to invoices in countries where invoices provided with consular authentication are requested, and that authentication should be restrained to as few invoices as possible.

It is very important that while unifying consular invoices it should be generally and uniformly set down that the consular authentication should be effected as much as possible by the consulate having authority at the place of origin and not by the consulate of the seaport from which the goods are shipped to the state of destination.

Stress must be laid on this measure, since for the sake of the compilations of international statistics, which are mostly based on the facts ascertained by the customs manipulation, goods should be registered according to their real place of origin.

Under the present conditions, when consular invoices are for the most part legalized at the place of shipping, it is impossible to form a precise idea of the real foreign traffic of these goods, as the exports from countries which have no seacoast at all or possess no direct shipping connection are registered much below reality.

This circumstance is very disadvantageous not only to American business men, who from these statistics are unable to get information about the very origin of the goods imported, but also to the conclusion of commercial treaties for which reliable statistics form an indispensable basis.

The knowledge of the real foreign traffic is a very important economical factor. In order to find out the real amount of the foreign traffic of the American states it is therefore necessary that invoices should always be authenticated by consulates having authority at the real place of origin, and not at the port of departure, as it has to take place now in many States.

The President: Mr. BENET.

Mr. Lawrence V. Benet, *American Chamber of Commerce of Paris*

Gentlemen, the delegates of the American Chamber of Commerce of Paris, owing to the very situation and daily experience of the members with consular invoices, are placed in a position favorable for thoroughly appreciating the necessity for uniformity not only in consular invoices but also in certificates of origin. While we believe that means can and eventually will be found to abolish the consular invoice, at the same time safeguarding governmental interests and those of the world of commerce, we are well aware of the present difficulties so ably set forth in the report which has been made before us. We therefore heartily approve and second the propositions of Mr. Wilbur J. Carr, who from his wide and long experience, and as director of the United States Consular Service, has been able to give this matter such profound and enlightening investigation.

Gentlemen, I thank you.

M. le Président: M. Downs est appelé pour prendre la parole.

(*Translation*)

Mr. Downs has the floor.

Mr. William C. Downs, *New York, N. Y.*

Mr. President and Gentlemen:

Mr. Carr, in the report that has been placed before you on the matter of Consular Invoices, has so carefully indicated and described and so skilfully tabulated the principal points of difference in the forms of such invoices as at present required by various companies as essential parts of the shipping documents covering goods which are imported by them, that it appears to me I shall best serve the purpose of the discussion by considering some of the consular requirements a little more in detail from the practical point of view of the exporter to the Latin-American countries. The same difficulties and inconveniences will be encountered by the European exporter as by the American shipper, since, with the exception of some slight modifications due to reciprocity treaties or favored nation clauses in the Paris regulations, the consular requirements of any particular country are the same, no matter whether the goods are exported from Europe or from the United States. As Mr. Carr very justly says, the question is one affecting every exporting country on the globe. With your permission, therefore, I will consider the consular regulations of some of the countries separately, beginning with the one which presents the least difficulties.

The method of Uruguay is a model of simplicity, and is apparently entirely adequate to its purpose. Absolutely no consular invoice, as such, is required; three copies of the bill of lading, however, must be presented to the Uruguayan consul, on two of which he places his official seal and returns them to the shipper. The third copy is retained by the consul, and must bear an endorsement in Spanish giving a description of the goods, their marks and numbers, the number of packages, their cubic measurement, net and gross weights and their value. A fixed fee of only \$1.00 Uruguayan gold is charged for certifying these bills of lading. Such a document presents no difficulties to the shipper and entails no loss of time in making it up.

Costa Rica's system is also quite simple. While it is true that the consul in the port of shipment does not certify an invoice, the shipper is required to make up and forward to the consignee with the other shipping documents an invoice on a special form for custom-house purposes, which is certified at the port of entry where the corresponding fee is also paid.

The next most convenient system is that of the Argentine Republic. A certificate of origin, in Spanish or the language of the country from which the shipment is made, stating the marks, number of packages, class of goods, their weight or quantity and their country of origin, and signed by the shipper, is attached to three of the bills of lading and certified by the consul, the charge being only \$2.00 for any shipment irrespective of its value. No statement of value is required. Two of these bills of lading eventually reach the consul through

the steamship company. This again presents no difficulties, but involves a little more labor than in the case of Uruguay.

Hayti's method is similar, the difference being that six copies of a consular invoice describing the goods in more detail and also stating their value must be made up in either French or English on prescribed forms purchased of the consul, who is also required to see and stamp five signed copies of the bill of lading, of which he returns four. This naturally involves still more labor and loss of time on the part of the shipper. There is, however, no charge for the certification of the documents.

Next comes Brazil, whose requirements are three copies of a consular invoice on a prescribed form in Portuguese or the language of the country of origin, which are certified by the consul for a fixed fee of \$1.65, and which must state the marks, number of packages, general class of the goods, their gross, net and legal weights, their value and origin, and the approximate freight and other expenses. One of these copies is retained in the archives of the consulate, one is forwarded by the consul to the Federal Government in Rio de Janeiro, and the third reaches the custom-house in the port of entry through the consignee of the goods. The chief difficulty of the shipper in fulfilling these requirements is that it is often practically impossible to obtain from the manufacturer or supplier an accurate statement of the three classes of weights for his goods. He may easily furnish the gross weight of the shipping packages, the weight of the goods in their containers or wrappers, but he seldom knows the actual net weight of his product and is likely to estimate it or to omit it entirely, being unaware of the fact that the custom-house regulations of Brazil clearly state that "for any difference from the declarations of the consular invoice, in the contents of the volume or volumes, found at the time of examining the goods, the owner or consignee shall be fined double duties whatever be their amount, for the difference found, be it a difference in quality, weight, lower tax or valuation," and that "the declaration in the invoice of the gross weight of the merchandise, when the duties are payable on the net weight, or vice-versa, incurs the same penalty. To take a concrete example of the working of this regulation, suppose that a shipment is being made of resin, a very common article of export from the United States to Brazil. It is the trade custom in the United States that resin is bought and sold gross weight for net; that is to say, from the nature of the article, the wooden container or barrel forming an almost integral part of the goods, the buyer pays so much per pound for the gross weight of the package. The custom-house regulations of Brazil, however, concede an arbitrary tare on resin of 20 per cent. The average shipper, being unaware of this regulation, would in the natural course of events declare in his consular invoice only one weight, the gross weight, the only weight which he knows. In consequence of such a declaration the consignee would be obliged to pay 20 per cent more duties than he should, and would moreover be fined an amount equal to these excess duties. In other words he would pay 40 per cent more duties than he should, for which he would naturally hold the shipper responsible.

The next general class of consular invoices is that in which the certification fee is determined by a fixed percentage of the value of the goods, there being in most cases a minimum charge. In this class the fee is evidently for the purpose of raising revenue and forms a tax on the goods, which is eventually borne by the importer. To this group belong Bolivia, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Panama and Peru. The percentage, however, is not uniform, and there are other differences in the respective requirements.

Bolivia collects 2 per cent of the value of the goods alone, exclusive of freight and other charges, with a minimum charge of \$2.00, and requires that the manufacturer's original invoice or a copy of the sworn custom-house clearance and the bills of lading shall be shown the consul as evidence that the value is correctly stated.

Panama charges $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 per cent with minimum of \$1.00, and also \$1.00 for certifying the bill of lading up to the value of \$100; for over \$100, \$3.00 is charged. Certificates of insurance must be shown the consul as proof of the value.

Peru collects the uniform fee of 1 per cent of the value of the goods alone, irrespective of the size of the shipment.

Ecuador's charges are also on the value of the goods alone and amount to 3 per cent with a minimum of \$1.00.

Cuba's fee is only 1 per cent on amounts over \$200; for smaller amounts there are certain minimum fees. The bills of lading must also be certified at a charge of \$1.00 per set.

Colombia divides its consular invoices into three classes: The first covers articles ordered by the government, or the diplomatic corps, educational supplies, seeds, plants and animals, no charge being made for the certification of the corresponding invoices. The second class includes supplies for railroads, agriculture, mines, etc., the fee being 1 per cent.

The third class embraces all other general merchandise, on which the charge is 3 per cent, except for articles of gold, silver and precious stones on which 6 per cent is collected. The amount of the expenses must also be stated. These charges, however, are not on the value of the goods plus freight, insurance, commission and all other charges. This regulation, as in the case of Nicaragua, that the fee shall be collected on the amount of the shipping expenses as well as on the value of the goods causes great inconvenience to the shipper and often renders it impossible that the shipping documents be forwarded by the steamer carrying the goods. It is obvious that in order to comply faithfully with these regulations, and he must comply faithfully or render himself liable to heavy fines, the shipper cannot make up his consular invoice until he is in possession of all the details. He cannot know the exact amount of the freight until he actually receives the bills of lading from the steamship company and often goods are placed on board up to a few hours before the sailing of the steamer. He cannot calculate the amount of the insurance which he must cover until he knows the freight and has approximated the other expenses, as prepaid freight and other advance charges must be insured as well as the goods themselves. Then he must determine the amount of his commission, if he is a commission merchant, which is naturally figured on all disbursements. All this takes time and labor and leaves no time for the preparation of an accurate consular invoice and obtaining its certification by the consul before the steamer leaves, if the bills of lading are received only at the last moment. No rush orders can be executed. The shipper from New York overcomes this difficulty in some instances by forwarding his shipping documents after the steamer has sailed via Mobile or New Orleans, trusting to luck that by thus employing a part rail and part water route his papers may reach their destination before the arrival of the steamer carrying the goods. This method, however, is uncertain and is not available to European shippers or shippers from Mobile or New Orleans themselves. If the consignee does not receive his papers in time he cannot take his goods out of the custom-house on their arrival and may have to pay heavy storage charges and may possibly incur a fine.

The next and last classification which I make of consular invoices has the distinguishing feature that the fee is not a fixed sum or a definite percentage of the value, but is an arbitrary amount which varies according to the value of the shipment but in no proportionate ratio. This group is a large one and embraces the following countries: Chile, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Salvador, Santo Domingo and Venezuela. There are also various differences in the requirements of the countries composing this class, some taking only the value of the goods into consideration, others collecting the fee on the freight and other charges as well; some requiring separate invoices for each shipping mark, others permitting several shipping marks to appear on the same invoice. The objection to calculating the fee on the expenses has already been pointed out; the system of charging arbitrary sums for specified amounts is unjust to the small importer and gives an undue advantage to the larger importer. Consider briefly the fees of the different countries in this group.

Chile charges \$2.00 on the value of goods up to \$250; \$2.50 up to \$300; \$3.00 on the value of goods up to \$450; \$3.50 up to \$500; \$7.50 up to \$1250; \$13.50 up to \$2500; \$26.00 up to \$5000. As it is the importer who eventually pays the fee, it is evident that the merchant who imports \$5000 worth of goods is taxed only $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, while the man who buys \$300 at a time pays \$3-100 of 1 per cent, and he who purchases \$600, $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The larger the importer, the greater the advantage which his own government gives him over his smaller competitor.

In Guatemala the discrimination in favor of the large man is still greater. For goods valued up to \$99.99 the fee is \$7.00; up to \$449.99 it is \$10.00; up to \$999.99 it is \$14.00; up to \$2999.99 it is \$16.00; up to \$5999.99 it is \$20.00. For \$6000 and over it is \$20 plus \$2 for each additional \$1000 or fraction thereof. On this basis the importer of \$10,000 worth of goods would be taxed \$28 or a little more than $\frac{1}{4}$ of 1 per cent, while the \$500 importer would have to pay \$14 or nearly 3 per cent.

Such great differences also furnish a strong temptation to under-valuation of goods, which, although the under-valuation may be very slight, is nevertheless demoralizing. Suppose the true value of the goods is \$502; if honestly declared the fee would be \$14, while it would be only \$10 if they were declared at \$499.

For Honduras the fee on goods valued up to \$25 is \$1.00; up to \$50 is \$1.50; up to \$100 it is \$3.00; up to \$500 it is \$6.00; up to \$1000 it is \$10.00. For over \$1000 it is \$10 plus 25 cents for each \$100 up to \$10,000. For over \$10,000, it is \$32.50 plus only 15 cents for each \$100. Thus for \$500 you are taxed $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, while for \$10,000 only $\frac{1}{4}$ of 1 per cent.

In the case of Mexico the fees change for every \$500 with the advantage always in favor of the large importer, although not in so marked a degree as in some other cases, \$500 paying about $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 per cent and \$5000 about $\frac{1}{4}$ of 1 per cent.

Nicaragua presents the following case, the fee being: \$2.50 up to \$100; \$3.00 up to \$200; \$5.00 up to \$500; \$10.00 up to \$1000. In excess of \$1000 the fee is \$10 and $\frac{1}{4}$ of 1 per cent of the excess. Hence the importer of over \$1000 has a great advantage over the smaller importer. Nicaragua also calculates its fees on the freight and other charges.

Salvador also penalizes the small man by charging \$1.00 on invoices up to \$25; \$2.00 up to \$100; \$4.00 up to \$500; \$6.00 up to \$1000. For over \$1000 the charge is \$6.00 plus 25 cents per \$100. For over \$5000 the charge is \$16.00 plus 10 cents per \$100. Thus the tax on \$500 is \$4.00 or $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 per cent, while on \$10,000 it is \$21, or only $\frac{1}{4}$ of 1 per cent.

A similar scale for Santo Domingo compels the \$500 importer to pay \$3 or $\frac{3}{4}$ of 1 per cent, while the \$10,000 importer pays \$11 or $11\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 per cent. The scale is: \$1.00 for \$50; \$2.00 for \$200; \$3.00 for \$1000; \$4.00 for \$2000; \$5.00 for \$4000; for over \$4000 the charge is \$5.00 plus \$1.00 for each \$100.

Venezuela has a still different range of fees, the charges running: \$3.75 for up to \$100; \$5.00 for up to \$200; \$7.50 for up to \$800. For over \$800 the consul collects \$7.50 plus \$1.25 for each \$200. Thus \$500 pays \$7.50 or $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent; \$1000 pays \$8.50 or $85\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 per cent; \$10,000 pays \$63.75 or $64\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 per cent.

In the interests of fair play to their own merchants the countries in this last group should revise their scale of consular fees and put them upon a percentage basis, no matter what action they may take in the matter of securing uniformity of such invoices.

The disadvantage to the small importer might be overcome were the shipper permitted to consolidate shipments to various parties on a bill of lading and issue only one consular invoice, consigning all the goods to one party for distribution. This, however, is prevented by the regulation of most of the countries that only one shipping mark may appear on the consular invoice. It is possible, of course, to give all the goods one general shipping mark, designating the separate consignees by the different numbers given to the package composing the shipment, but this recourse is generally available only to the large commission houses who may have several clients in one place — and seldom to the manufacturer who does a direct business — and these customers must all be on good terms with each other and consent to the arrangement. In any case it is liable to cause delay in the execution of the order, confusion in the delivery of the goods and makes it impossible to negotiate each invoice separately. In short, it is generally unsatisfactory.

This system of calculating fees also works somewhat to the restraint of trade in rendering it extremely difficult to make C. I. F. quotations, — that is to say, quotations which include the cost, insurance, freight and all other charges. Practically all articles that are sold in bulk or that are subject to violent fluctuations in price should be sold on cable quotations, subject to acceptance by cable, these quotations being the price per unit delivered in the port of entry.

With the consular fees or taxes, however, varying in no fixed ratio to the value or quantity, it is impossible to determine a unit. Thus the countries using this system force their merchants to do a business which is unnecessarily speculative.

I have gone thus into detail in the matter of consular requirements in order to emphasize the importance of making some reforms. It is now two years since the resolutions cited by Mr. Carr were adopted by the Conference of American States in Buenos Aires and nothing whatever has been done. It is possible that the matter has not been brought forcibly enough to the attention of commercial organizations such as are represented at this Congress.

After examining this somewhat formidable display of the differences and difficulties in the documents, it might be asked why are consular invoices required. They apparently serve one or more of three purposes.

First, to facilitate statistical work.

Second, to classify and value the goods for custom-house purposes and to prevent false entries.

Third, to raise revenue.

As to the first, the making of consular invoices would appear to cause unnecessary labor and loss of time. All steamship companies require that the bill of lading shall show marks, numbers, numbers of packages, class of goods, quantities and value. If the consul requires these particulars for his records, an extra copy of the bill of lading can easily be furnished him as in the case of Uruguay. The custom-house at the port of entry gets an identical record, as a bill of lading must be presented to the consignee when the goods are entered. These two copies should be sufficient for all statistical purposes.

As for the second object, the bill of lading again answers every requirement and is again supplemented by the consignee's custom-house entry. If desirable a separate invoice may be prepared for custom-house ends as in the case of Costa Rica, and it is immaterial whether it is certified at the point of shipment or at the port of entry — for it must be borne in mind that in the final analysis it is the shipper's word that the consul takes that the statements in the consular invoice are true and correct. He has neither the time nor the means to verify them himself.

In regard to the third object, to raise revenue, it has already been pointed out that it is the consignee who eventually pays all the consular fees, since the shipper invariably either charges them separately in his commercial invoice or adds them to the price of the goods, be they small or large. It therefore seems to be a circuitous method of taxation, giving unnecessary trouble and causing loss of time to the wrong party. The fee or tax could be collected more directly at the port of entry by adding its amount to the duties as a sur-tax to maintain, if you will, the consular service. It is well to note that none of the countries requiring consular invoices are free-trade countries, although there are countries which require no consular documents and which still have a high tariff; hence it would necessitate no new machinery to collect the fee in this way.

I venture to suggest, therefore, that to facilitate international commercial relations, the aim of the International Congress of Chambers of Commerce should be, not merely to secure uniformity in the matter of consular invoices, but to abolish them entirely, as documents whose purpose can be more conveniently served otherwise. The certificate of origin required for goods affected by tariff treaties may be retained, as it gives but little trouble, although, be it said with all due respect to the consular service, the certification by the consul of such a document is a farce, as he never verifies the statements, the word of the shipper being taken as sufficient evidence. The abolition of consular invoices would cause a great saving to the shipper in time and labor and in the hire of clerks who must be familiar with the requirements of various countries, would relieve the consignee of many fines occasioned by the fact that many of the present forms are simply traps for the unwary, and would give the consuls themselves more leisure to devote to studying business conditions and to report on matters that would promote the commercial interests of their respective countries. The consul whose time is taken up by the merely routine work of certifying invoices and recording fees cannot

do much in the way of independent research which might be of great value. It might be well to note in this connection that most of the countries of Europe, some of which are free-trade and some of which are high tariff countries, get along very well without consular documents. Their statistics are just as complete, their custom-houses do not suffer any more through fraudulent entries and their revenues are maintained as well as in the case of countries requiring such documents.

This is the ideal. Failing to reach this, strive for the second best — uniformity of consular invoices. For this the form recommended by the Fourth International Conference of American States held in Buenos Aires in 1910, a copy of which has been submitted by Mr. Carr, seems to answer the purpose.

If even this cannot be attained, or perhaps as a preliminary step to this end, the countries which collect fees on shipping expenses and those whose fees are disproportionate fixed sums for specified amounts should at least reform these inconvenient requirements.

My recommendation, then, in the matter of consular invoices, in the order of desirability, would be: — Abolition, Standardization or Modification.

I beg to thank you, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, for the courtesy and attention with which you have listened to this necessarily dry and technical exposition and argument.

The President: The next speaker has taken considerable interest in this matter, is especially fitted to speak upon it, and I think you will all be pleased to hear him.

Hon. John Barrett, *Director-General of the Pan-American Union*

Mr. President, and Members of the Congress:

I shall take but a moment of your time this morning, because I know how little time is now left to the Congress. But I shall explain why I wish to say a word upon this subject.

The Pan-American Union, of which I happen to be executive officer, is greatly interested in this problem, because perhaps no other official institution in the world appreciates more the necessity for improving the facilities for exchange and trade among nations. For the information of some of the European delegates who are here I want to say this, that the Pan-American Union is an international organization maintained in Washington by the joint contributions of the 21 American republics, from the United States and Mexico on the north to Argentina and Chili at the south. Its governing board is made up of ambassadors and ministers of those countries and its affairs are directed by a director-general and assistant-director chosen by that board.

I stand before you in my capacity as an officer, an international officer, not only of the United States but of the other 20 republics of the Western hemisphere, to urge upon you the adoption of a resolution, if presented, in favor of uniformity of consular invoices, to improve and facilitate the exchange of trade.

Every day our correspondents bring to us letters not only from American manufacturers and merchants, but from those of Germany, France, Belgium, Holland, England, all over the world, asking if the Pan-American Union as a great international organization cannot do something to advance the cause of uniformity of consular invoices.

I want to say also that there is the sentimental side. As the head of the international organization which to-day is doing the best possible work for peace, an organization which is perhaps doing more work along this line than any other great official organization of the world in a practical form, that being the great thing for which we are all working, I would say that there is nothing that promotes friendship and accord among nations so greatly as the extension of trade. Trade is the apostle, the agent of peace and prosperity throughout the world, and the more we can do to make the exchange among nations facile, the more we can do to remove the difficulties and obstacles, the nearer we will come to the ultimate object of this organization — that of peace among all nations.

I want to say this, that the Pan-American Congress held in Buenos Aires in 1910, in

Rio de Janeiro in 1906 and in Mexico in 1901, to which I had the honor to be a delegate for the United States — and even the one which met before in Washington, nearly 20 years ago, — dealt with this subject as one of the most profound interest to the three hundred or four hundred men who gathered from every one of the nations of the Western hemisphere. If it is of interest to them, it is of interest to all the world.

The Pan-American Union, as I have often said, although controlled and developed by the American nations, being an American organization, has nothing whatever in its constitution or work that is antagonistic to Europe. On the other hand, it is desirous of seeing trade between the Latin-American countries and the United States, and Europe and the Orient, built up, because it is of interest and benefit to all. This concerns the countries of Europe just as much as it does the United States and South American countries; and so I appeal to you to go forward in a spirit of fairness, as men who want to see every country get the advantage in trade, considering the proposition in a fair way, and in some manner getting something practical out of the discussions this morning.

Gentlemen, I thank you.

M. le Président: M. C. H. CATELLI a maintenant la parole.

(Translation)

Mr. C. H. CATELLI, now has the floor.

M. C. H. Catelli. *Member of Montreal Chamber of Commerce*

Monsieur le Président, messieurs les membres du congrès international, je représente la Chambre de commerce de Montréal. Comme l'a dit M. Wilbur Carr, il faut de plus en plus tendre à la simplification des moyens permettant aux nations d'avoir des relations les unes avec les autres.

Faire l'économie du travail et des capitaux et faire l'accord mutuel comme base des relations, tant politiques que commerciales; et pour arriver à cette simplification, à cette économie et vers cet accord mutuel, M. Carr recommande d'assurer la réglementation uniforme en ce qui concerne la facture paraphée par les consuls. Or, la Chambre de commerce de Montréal (Canada), soumet respectueusement à ce congrès s'il ne serait pas désirable d'élargir le cadre de la question qui nous occupe en ce moment et d'émettre le vœu que le gouvernement des divers pays représentés à ce congrès, autorise les Chambres de commerce à légaliser les écritures d'expéditeurs, comme cela se fait déjà par le consul en vertu du traité qui règle les relations commerciales du Canada avec la France. Cette autorisation est donnée aux présidents des Chambres de commerce et aux présidents des associations commerciales en Italie. Je crois que le président des Chambres de commerce a cette autorité nulle part autant qu'au Canada. Cette innovation aura d'heureux résultats. Le Canada est appelé à devenir un grand pays d'exportation, mais le nombre de consuls n'est pas aussi considérable qu'il devrait l'être. Or, si les gouvernements exigent un certificat d'origine visé par les consuls, les exportateurs canadiens auront à souffrir de graves inconvénients, et il en serait de même pour tous pays où le territoire est immense.

En Canada, les consuls sont établis dans les grandes villes. Or, on ne peut se rendre compte des ennuis des exportateurs que le jour où il faudra se rendre chez le consul pour faire viser les factures. D'un autre côté, il existe des Chambres de commerce dans toutes les villes. On voit quels services peut rendre une loi qui autorise les présidents des Chambres de commerce à parapher les factures; c'est par ce moyen qu'on arrivera à simplifier toutes les formalités qui régissent les rapports entre les commerçants des divers pays.

(Translation)

Mr. President, Members of the International Congress, I represent the Chamber of Commerce of Montreal. As Mr. Wilbur Carr has said, there is more and more need for the simplification of the means by which nations have relations with one another.

With a view to the economy of capital and labor and with a view to making mutual good will the foundation of both political and commercial relations, and in order to arrive at this economy and to approach this mutual good will, Mr. Carr recommends uniform regulations in the matter of consular invoices. Now the Chamber of Commerce of Montreal, Canada, respectfully submits to this Congress whether it will not be desirable to enlarge the scope of the question which we have under consideration at this time, and to adopt a resolution that the governments of the different countries represented at this Congress authorize chambers of commerce to legalize the documents of exporters, as is done already by the consul under a treaty which regulates the commercial relations of Canada with France. This authority is given to the presidents of chambers of commerce and to the presidents of commercial associations in Italy. I think that the presidents of chambers of commerce have this authority nowhere as much as in Canada. This innovation will have very happy results. Canada is becoming a great exporting country, but the number of consuls is not as large as it should be. Now if the governments demand a certificate of origin viséd by the consuls, Canadian exporters will have to suffer great inconvenience, but it will be the same for all countries where the territory is immense.

In Canada the consuls are located in the large cities. It is impossible to realize the great inconvenience to exporters if it should be necessary to go to the office of the consul to have the invoices signed. On the other hand chambers of commerce exist in all cities. It is easy to see of what great service would be a law which authorizes the presidents of the chambers of commerce to sign the invoices. By this means the formalities governing the dealings between merchants and different countries would be simplified.

M. le Président: M. MORTON a la parole.

(Translation)

Mr. MORTON has the floor.

Mr. C. D. Morton, *London Chamber of Commerce*

Mr. President and Gentlemen, we have great pleasure in supporting the most able paper of Mr. Wilbur Carr, whom we think has dealt with this subject in a very clear, concise and able manner. He has taken up every possible detail and explained it fully, and we give it most hearty support.

There is one point I would like to mention, and that is in regard to a custom that prevails in some parts of South America of delivering goods against a consular invoice. I have always understood myself, and I think it is the general understanding, that a consular invoice is not to be used as a bill of lading. But this does occur in a few of the republics.

I take the liberty of mentioning it here, as I think it is a practice that we do not wish to see grow. In London, we consider the bill of lading to be the legal document which furnishes the only title to claim the goods. (Applause.)

M. le Président: M. SOETBEER a la parole.

(Translation)

Mr. SOETBEER has the floor.

Dr. Soetbeer, *"Der Deutsche Handelstag" of Berlin.*

Meine Herren! Die Tagesordnung lautet: „Vereinheitlichung der Konsulats-Fakturen.“ und der Herr Berichterstatter wünscht, daß wir uns dafür aussprechen, daß die Konsulats-Fakturen vereinheitlicht werden.

Ich bin nicht dagegen, — im Gegenteil, ich glaube, daß dies wünschenswert ist; — aber ich habe das Bedürfnis zu erklären, daß der Wunsch sehr bescheiden ist. Es ist nicht so wichtig, daß die Konsulats-Fakturen einheitlich sind, als daß möglichst wenig Belästigungen durch die Konsulats-Fakturen herbeigeführt werden. Möglichst wenig Belästigungen nach drei Richtungen hin: einmal, daß die verlangte Zahl der Konsulats-Fakturen möglichst gering ist; zweitens, daß die geforderten Formalitäten tunlichst einfach sind, — damit man nicht etwa erst zum Notar zu gehen braucht, wie es einige Staaten verlangen; und drittens, daß sie möglichst billig sind. („*Schr richtig!*“)

Das sind drei Forderungen, die unbedingt wichtiger sind, als die Vereinheitlichung, denn wenn diese Vereinheitlichung schlecht ist, dann haben wir kein Interesse daran, wir haben nur dann ein Interesse daran, wenn die Vereinheitlichung gut ist, und wir haben das erste Interesse daran, — wie auch schon einer der Herren Vorredner bemerkte, — daß die Konsulats-Fakturen überhaupt abgeschafft werden. („*Bravo!*“ — „*Schr richtig!*“)

Es ist eine besondere Liebenswürdigkeit unserer Freunde aus den Vereinigten Staaten, daß sie uns Gelegenheit geben, hier zu sagen, daß wir leider in Deutschland sehr belästigt werden durch die Forderungen der Vereinigten Staaten, die man an diejenigen Firmen stellt, die nach den Vereinigten Staaten exportieren, hinsichtlich der Konsulats-Fakturen, wie z. B. Angabe des Wertes usw., und ich möchte um Nachforschungen darüber bitten, inwieweit diese Anforderungen richtig sind, nach der Art, wie die Sachen gemacht werden müssen. Kurz und gut: es gibt eine ganze Anzahl von Dingen, die man hier vorbringen könnte, und ich möchte erklären, indem ich schließe, daß ich den hier in der Vorlage geäußerten Wunsch für sehr bescheiden halte, und daß ich nur deshalb keine weiteren Anträge stelle, weil sie über den Rahmen der heutigen Tagesordnung hinweggehen würden. (*Beifall.*)

(*Translation*)

Gentlemen, the order of the day reads, "Uniformity in the Matter of Consular Invoices," and the esteemed Reporter wishes to have us pronounce ourselves in favor of having consular invoices made uniform.

I am not opposed, — on the contrary, I believe this is highly desirable, — but I would like to say that this wish is rather modest. It is not so important to have the consular invoices uniform as it is to have as few annoyances as possible in connection with consular invoices. We wish to reduce as far as possible the trouble in three directions: first, the number of copies of the consular invoices should be as small as possible; second, the formalities required should be simplified as far as possible, — for instance, to make it unnecessary to first go before a notary, as is required by some countries; and, third, the charges should be as low as possible. (*Approval.*)

These three demands are undoubtedly more important than mere uniformity, since if this uniformity is bad it would not be to our advantage. We are only interested in it if the uniformity is good, and our greatest interest, — as one of our speakers has already said, — would be to have the consular invoices abolished altogether. (*Applause.*)

It is especially kind of our friends in the United States that they give us an opportunity to say here that we are in Germany very much bothered through the requirements of the United States from firms exporting to the United States in respect to the consular invoices, as for instance, the statement of value and so forth, and I should be glad to obtain information as to how far these requirements are correct and how the matter really should be carried out. In brief, there are many things which might be stated here, and I will say in closing that I consider the desire expressed in the motion to be very modest, and that I am only withheld from a further motion by the fact that it would exceed the scope of our present order of the day. (*Applause.*)

M. le Président: M. KIESSELBACH a la parole.

(*Translation*)

Mr. KIESSELBACH has the floor.

Dr. A. Kiesselbach, *Hamburg Chamber of Commerce*

I am not able to follow the deductions of this report, because I believe that the disadvantages of the present system of consular invoices would not be avoided if we should accept this proposed form for consular invoices. On page 2 of the report you find enumerated a number of complaints about the present system. The first complaint you find there is that "Some countries require the shipper to submit only three copies, while others require five, six or, as in the case of Ecuador, seven copies." The proposed form of invoice does not say anything about the number or price which the shipper would have to submit, so that at this point the acceptance of the proposed form would not be of any advantage.

The second point concerns the language which is to be used for the invoices. The report says, "Most countries require invoices to be in Spanish, while others permit also the use of English." The proposed form of invoice uses the English language. I do not know if it is intended to prescribe exclusively the use of the English language. That would be no relief for an exporter in Spain. But if it is not intended, also in this point the acceptance of the proposed form could not bring any advantage.

The third point you find on page 2: "Invoices for some of the countries must be sworn to," etc. That is the same as with other points you find enumerated there.

So I am sorry to come to the conclusion that the acceptance of the proposed form of consular invoice cannot be considered, as I say, as in the line of progress.

M. le Président: M. MANES a la parole.

(Translation)

Mr. MANES has the floor.

Herr Hugo Manes, *Association of Export Houses, Frankfort-on-the-Main*

Meine Herren! Um Ihnen nur an einem Beispiel klarzumachen, wie sehr es nötig ist, die Konsulats-Fakturen einer einheitlichen Regelung zu unterziehen, will ich nur mitteilen, daß ich hier ungefähr ein Dutzend Briefe von deutschen Exporteuren und Fabrikanten habe, in denen ausgeführt wird, daß die Konsulate der Kubanischen Republik die deutschen Fakturen, die nach Kuba gehen, in einer sehr eigentümlichen Weise behandeln.

Der General-Konsul in Hamburg verlangt eine siebenfache Ausführung auf von ihm bezogenen Formularen, von denen je die erste Seite mit 10 Pfennig und je die zweite Seite mit 5 Pfennig berechnet wird. Der Consul in Bremen verlangt eine fünffache und der Consul in Nürnberg eine dreifache Ausfertigung der Fakturen.

Hieraus erschen Sie, meine Herren, daß es unbedingt erforderlich ist, die ganze Frage einmal einheitlich zu regeln. (Beifall.)

(Translation)

Gentlemen, to show you by an example how necessary it is to have consular invoices subject to uniform regulations I would say that I have here about a dozen letters from German exporters and manufacturers stating that the consulates of the Cuban Republic treat the German invoices which are sent to Cuba in a very peculiar manner.

The Consul General in Hamburg requires seven copies on forms furnished by him, for which a charge is made of ten Pfennigs for the first page and five Pfennigs for each additional page. The Consul in Bremen requires five copies, while the Consul in Nuremberg only demands three copies.

This will show you, gentlemen, that it is entirely to be desired that the entire question should be uniformly regulated. (Applause.)

M. le Président: M. PAUL MEYER a la parole.

(Translation)

Mr. PAUL MEYER has the floor.

Mr. Paul Meyer, Nottingham Chamber of Commerce

Mr. President and Gentlemen, the time for closing our proceedings is approaching, and I shall be very brief. While I am most anxious not to hurt the feelings of our American friends, who have done and are doing so much for our comfort and pleasure, I think I must not let this occasion pass without mentioning the abuses to which consular invoices sometimes lead. You are all business men and you know that between customers one sometimes has to differentiate. That is to say, a man who buys a hundred pieces generally gets an advantage over the man who buys five or ten. While the American Government is most anxious to study all the markets and get to this real market value of merchandise, and while, as far as I know, the Europeans are most anxious to support the endeavor of the American officers, we find great difficulty in getting satisfaction. One abuse which I think I must bring before you is this, that when the custom-house in the United States is in doubt as to whether the market value is correct, as stated in the invoice, they generally go to some of the firms who handle the same article and get their information. This is all right, everybody wants to do what he can to support honest trade. But if the custom-house in some instances goes so far as to show the invoice to the competitor of the man to whom the invoice is directed, I say it is abusing consular invoices. (*Applause.*)

I am quite prepared to give chapter and verse to some select committee who may wish to know facts. Speaking for the Chamber of Commerce of Nottingham, we heartily agree with the idea of unifying as much as possible the consular invoices. (*Applause.*)

M. le Président: M. J. A. LECKIE a la parole.

(*Translation*)

Mr. J. A. LECKIE has the floor.

Mr. Joseph A. Leckie, Walsall (England) Chamber of Commerce

Mr. President and Gentlemen, in view of the late hour I would waive my right to speak at this time, with the understanding that I may prepare a few brief remarks and put them in the proceedings.

(*Permission was accorded Mr. Leckie to do this, and later he submitted the following:*)

Mr. President and Gentlemen: On behalf of the Walsall Chamber of Commerce I desire to give the most hearty support to the report of Mr. Carr, and to the recommendations which he makes. Anything that will tend to simplify these exasperating documents called Consular Invoices will have the enthusiastic support of Great Britain. Indeed we should like to go farther. We do not see that the value of consular invoices is commensurate with the trouble, worry and expense which their preparation involves. In fact, there is an idea in some quarters — mistaken it may be — that these documents are demanded in order to find work and fees for the consuls of the countries which insist upon them.

If great business nations like Germany and Great Britain can get along without consular invoices surely that is *prima facie* evidence that they are not absolutely necessary for the due conduct of import trade. Perhaps the abolition of consular invoices is at the moment not a question of practical politics, and in the meantime, we hope the recommendation of Mr. Carr will be adopted by the different governments concerned. The simplification and uniformity which this will bring about will be welcomed by British business men.

M. le Président: Son Excellence F. A. PEZET a la parole.

(*Translation*)

His Excellency F. A. PEZET has the floor.

His Excellency F. A. Pezet, Minister of Peru, Washington, D. C.

Mr. President, Gentlemen, I do not want to take any of your time. I just wish to mention that I am here not as representative of the Peruvian Government, although I am Minister at Washington from that country. I am representative of the commercial interests of Peru, the Chambers of Commerce of Callao and Lima, and the Stock Exchange of Lima. I was in the consular service many years before I went into the diplomatic. I am familiar with this question of consular invoices, and personally I have always recommended to my government the abolition of consular invoices, as I considered them perfectly useless. (*"Hear hear!"*) And, speaking for the commercial interests of Peru, the chambers of commerce of my country, I am authorized to state that notwithstanding the position which my government may wish to take in this matter, the commercial interests in Peru wish and desire the complete abolition of the consular invoice — just attach the signature of the consul to two copies of the bill of lading, thus making it more valid if possible. I have the honor to salute you. (*Applause.*)

M. le Président: Le dernier orateur est M. EUGÈNE ALLARD.

(*Translation*)

Mr. EUGÈNE ALLARD will be the last speaker.

M. Eugène Allard, President of Belgian Chamber of Commerce of Paris

Je n'ai qu'une seule demande à faire: devant les mesures qu'on nous propose, devant l'espèce de reportage qu'on veut donner à ces mots "factures consulaires," eh bien! messieurs, je crois qu'il appartient au congrès de demander carrément la suppression pure et simple de la facture consulaire.

(*Translation*)

I have only one request to make. In advance of the steps which are proposed, in advance of the kind of continuance sought to be given to the words "consular invoices," I think, gentlemen, that it would be proper for the Congress to demand squarely the absolute abolition of the consular invoice.

M. le Président: J'ai une proposition: nous nous trouvons en présence d'un rapport. Nous prenons acte de vos remarques. Les orateurs ont fini d'adresser la parole, je vais maintenant donner lecture de la proposition.

(*Translation*)

A motion has been presented; we have a report before us. We will make due note of your remarks. The speakers have finished their speeches. I will now read the draft of the resolution.

(*Continuing in English*)

The Congress approves in principle the proposal for uniformity of consular invoices, and recommends to the interested States for their consideration the form of consular invoice prepared by the Fourth Conference of the Pan-American Union.

The Congress approves the recommendation for moderate consular fees and their strict limitation to amounts necessary to cover the cost of the consular service.

(*Continuing in French*)

Ceux qui sont d'avis d'adopter ces conclusions, qu'ils veulent bien lever la main. (*Levée de mains générale.*) L'épreuve contraire? Le Congrès adopte.

(*Translation*)

Those in favor of adopting these resolutions will please raise their hands. (*General raising of hands.*) Contrary minded? The Congress adopts the resolutions.

Un Délégué: Monsieur le Président . . .

(Translation)

A DELEGATE: Mr. President . . .

M. le Président: Sur quelle question, monsieur?

(Translation)

On what question, please?

His Excellency Antonio Martin Rivero, *Minister of Cuba, Washington, D. C.; Delegate of the Government of Cuba*

I will speak in English. This proposition was presented at the table by the delegation from Cuba. I sent it myself and I want it to stand on record that this was proposed by this delegation, and also that I know that the representative of Japan desires to second that motion before it is put to vote — that is, the question before the house.

The President: That will be recorded in the transactions.

THE DESIRABILITY OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PRICES AND THE COST OF LIVING

M. le Président: Maintenant, nous abordons le dernier ordre du jour. J'ai demandé hier d'avoir un peu de patience et que nous pourrions ainsi terminer ce matin. Il est midi, nous avons une heure devant nous, et avec un peu de bonne volonté, nous pouvons finir.

(Translation)

We will now begin on the last subject on the order of the day. I asked yesterday that you kindly have a little patience which will enable us to finish this morning. It is now twelve o'clock; we have an hour before us and with a little good will we shall be able to finish.

M. le Président: Le rapporteur, M. FISHER, a la parole.

(Translation)

The Reporter, Mr. FISHER, has the floor.

Prof. Irving Fisher, *Yale University*

Gentlemen, inasmuch as my report has been published and circulated I will confine myself, in order to save time, to a brief summary of the report, for the benefit of those who have not read it.

The fact of high prices is world-wide. Primarily this is a business fact. Convulsions in prices, booms and depressions, concern rightly business men. Less than a generation ago the whole world was complaining of a prolonged fall in prices; now it is complaining of a prolonged rise in prices. Then the cry was, Depression of trade; now the cry is, The high cost of living. Then there was a great deal said about the purchasing power of money increasing, and now the purchasing power of money is decreasing. Then much was said about the scarcity of gold; now much is said about the abundance of gold. Then there were proposals carried out for international conferences on the gold question, and to-day there is a proposal for an international conference on the whole subject of the high cost of living.

I believe the time will come when business men may well feel the need of a more stable

standard of value. That is, we should have a gold standard which is of constant purchasing power instead of merely, as at present, constant weight. One of New York's foremost business men, a cotton broker, is to-day devoting much of his time to exhibiting the evils to investors and business men of a variable dollar.

The proposal for an international investigation of the high cost of living — the facts, the causes, the effects, the possible remedies, including not only the subject of a variable unit of purchasing power, but also the subject of the purchasing power of one's whole income, has been endorsed by the leading business men and organizations of this country and some of Europe. Financial editors, railway presidents, bankers and others, have joined in the movement for an international investigation. Many chambers of commerce have done this. A partial list is included in the printed report. It includes the Boston Chamber of Commerce. The proposal has the endorsement of the President of the United States and of all the candidates for the presidency in the present campaign. It has the endorsement of the "London Economist," of the "London Statist"; the endorsement of Bernhard Dernburg, formerly Secretary of State of Germany; of Hon. Raymond Poincare, Premier of France; Dr. Robert Meyer, Finance Minister of Austria; Dr. Morawitz, President of the Anglo-Austrian Bank of Vienna; Signor Luigi Luzzatti, formerly Minister of State, Rome; of Baron Y. Sakatani, formerly Finance Minister of Japan, and many others, a partial list of whom is given in the printed report.

On February 2, 1912, President Taft sent a special message to Congress, advocating that Congress authorize him to call together an international conference to discuss the cost of living. In that message he said:

"There has been a strong movement among economists, business men and others interested in economic investigation to secure the appointment of an international commission to look into the cause for the high prices of the necessities of life.

"For some years past the high and steadily increasing cost of living has been a matter of such grave public concern that I deem it of great public interest that an international conference be proposed at this time for the purpose of preparing plans, to be submitted to the various governments, for an international inquiry into the high cost of living, its extent, causes, effects and possible remedies . . .

"The numerous investigations on the subject, official or other, already made in various countries (such as Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, the Netherlands and the United States) have themselves strongly demonstrated the need of further study of world-wide scope. Those who have conducted these investigations have found that the phenomenon of rising prices is almost if not quite general throughout the world; but they are baffled in the attempt to trace the causes by the impossibility of making any accurate international comparisons."

Prior to the President's message, Senator Crawford had introduced a bill for this purpose, and afterwards Mr. William Sulzer, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs in the House, introduced a bill, and the Senate bill has been unanimously passed in April, 1912, and it has been unanimously recommended by the House Committee on Foreign Affairs on May 15, 1912, in an elaborate report of twenty-nine pages. It now goes over as unfinished business, to be voted on in the House of Representatives at the next Congress. Having passed one House it still requires passage in the other and the signature of the President.

The work to be undertaken by such an inquiry would relate to three branches. First, the facts — the facts as to the high cost of living; second, the causes; third, the remedy.

Even as to the facts, there is difference of opinion. Although there is a great deal of glib discussion, when the facts as presented are challenged they are found to rest on very insecure foundation. Very few nations have any index numbers showing the extent of the change in prices. The few that have — such as the United States, Canada, England, France, Germany, Japan and India — all have them by different methods. For instance, the United States Bureau of Labor has an index number involving 256 commodities; England, through the wool merchant, Mr. Saurbeck, has an index number of 44; the "London Economist" has 22.

Our Commissioner of Labor, Dr. Neill, has long sought to secure some degree of unity of method and comparability of statistics and index numbers; and I am informed this morning that the National Hungarian Commercial Association at Budapest has recently passed a resolution asking some method of uniformity in index numbers of prices.

As to the causes, there is much disagreement. Much is said of gold, something of credit, something of tariffs. There are at least twenty odd causes assigned for the high cost of living. These should be investigated and reduced to a few, at any rate.

As to remedies, there is still more need of an international conference. Many minor practical proposals have been made, and many radical suggestions have been made. All should receive consideration.

Among the suggestions to go to the root of the matter is one of my own in reference to the dollar as a stable standard of purchasing power. The suggestion which I have made and which is elaborated somewhat in this report, and still further in some typewritten memoranda here, is simply the working out of an idea suggested some time ago by Gov. Woodrow Wilson, now one of the nominees for the presidency of the United States. I did not intend to mention this detail, but the Boston committee on program asked me to do so, and I have done so merely as an illustration of the kind of subject which would be considered by an international conference. And I wish to emphasize the fact, as I understand some one looking merely at the summary of this report has misunderstood it — that any endorsement of the plan for an international conference on the cost of living does not by any means commit this organization to approval of my particular suggestion for a remedy. ("Hear, hear!") It merely commits the association as in favor of having the discussion of this and all the other remedies which may be suggested.

As to the technical working out of the plan for making a more stable dollar, so far as it is not fully and technically expressed in this report, I would refer you to the closing chapter of my book, "The Purchasing Power of Money," or for a still more technical and complete expression, to the typewritten memoranda here which I have especially prepared for distribution at this Congress to any of those who may be particularly interested in this vital subject. And any of you who take these memoranda would do me a service if you would send me your name and address, in order that I may communicate with you further.

The plan, I would say, if I may add one word about my own particular plan, is one which does not involve any untried elements. It merely is novel in that it brings together a number of elements, every one of which has been tried out by business experience.

Of course it is not pretended that to cure a variability in the purchasing power of the dollar would fully solve the great question of the high cost of living. The high cost of living is a problem of the purchasing power of income, and therefore involves two great branches — first, the purchasing power of the monetary unit, the dollar, the franc, the mark, the pound sterling; and second, the number of such units in the incomes of the people. Both of these problems merit careful consideration by an international inquiry on the subject. It is not only of great interest to-day, but it will be of great interest in the future if the prediction which I venture to make with considerable confidence comes true — that the rising tide of the price level will continue in the future. I do not mean to say that it will steadily increase year after year; on the contrary, I believe that it will be broken before many years by a crisis more or less severe. But I do mean to say on the basis of a careful statistical study which I have recently published in the *American Economic Review*, that the general level of prices, the general trend of prices for a number of years in the future will be upward and not downward. No one nation can successfully cope with this great subject; it is too big. It requires an international conference, and an international conference will surely be called if there is sufficient demand for it; and the demand which counts most with legislatures is the demand of business men. And it is for that reason that I appeal to you as business men to lend your approval to the plan for an international investigation on the high cost of living, in order that this great subject may be dealt with in a statesmanlike and a businesslike manner. (*Applause.*)

The President: Mr. KUNOSI.

Dr. Edmund Kunosi, *Assistant Secretary Royal Hungarian Ministry of Commerce; Delegate of Royal Government of Hungary*

Mr. President and Gentlemen, in the name of the National Hungarian Commercial Association I submitted to the Congress a proposal of resolutions and a report on the same on the uniform compilation of statistics of prices. This proposition was printed and distributed among the members of the Congress; therefore, I will not trespass on your time by repeating it. I for my part accept the proposal of the Reporter, because the calling of an international conference on this question is necessary for the realization of our proposal concerning the uniform compilation of statistics of prices, and because just before its adjournment the Congress has no time to discuss such complicated methods. When this international conference is held I shall try to find opportunity to submit proposals to it.

An English Delegate: Mr. President, I would like to ask a question. Is this really a question affecting chambers of commerce? Is it not really raising a political question with which chambers of commerce have really no say?

M. le Président: La question a été mise à l'étude, des rapports ont été préparées, et elle est à l'ordre du jour; nous suivons notre ordre du jour. Vous pouvez avoir votre opinion à ce sujet, mais nous devons quand même continuer.

(*Translation*)

The question has been given study, reports have been prepared, and it is in the order of the day; we follow our order of the day. You may have your opinion on the subject, but we must nevertheless continue.

Mr. C. H. Canby, *Board of Trade, Chicago, Illinois*

Only one moment, gentlemen. I will detain you but one moment. The professor has read from the brief which was submitted to all the members of the Congress practically his argument in favor of the international conference on the cost of living. I have read his brief with some care, and I do not find anywhere in it any recognition of the law of supply and demand. ("Hear, hear!") Those of us who have been closely identified with the handling of merchandise know that at no time in the past, not now and at no time in the future will a dollar, a franc, a mark or a pound sterling ever have a fixed purchasing power for more than the one moment before you. ("Hear, hear!") Every merchant in the world is changing the purchasing power of money every week. And how is he doing that? You have a stock of goods. Those goods you offer to-day for sale at a certain price. Within ten days' time the failure of a crop from which those goods are manufactured has changed the whole price level of that one particular commodity, without touching any one of another thousand commodities. What is the merchant's attitude? Instantly his price is marked up. The dollar, the pound sterling, is not depreciated as a purchasing power — not at all; but in this particular instance he asks a higher rate for his goods.

Now, so far as the cost of living in the United States is concerned — and that is the only country of which I have any close personal knowledge — I assure you I can take every article which has changed in value in the last ten years and I can show you a set of distinct, definite reasons why that price level has changed. The people of the United States are becoming more highly educated — what I term "the people," by which we mean the great mass of the people beneath the professional, beneath the merchant class; the great mass of the people are becoming more prosperous. Labor earns more for a day's work than ever before in this land. They demand more comforts and a higher grade of public service. The municipalities have increased the water supplies, the number of schools, the parks and all kinds of improved

conditions in the cities in which people live. What is the result? Municipal taxation has increased, and the municipal taxation is absorbed in the rent roll.

Now, there is one item. Take the other great item, that of meat. I come from the western country, and I assure you, gentlemen, that it is simply a change in the ratio of the number of consumers to the number of animals. That is all there is to the meat proposition. (*Applause.*)

Now, gentlemen, there has been a great deal of talk about the high cost of living which is based on an incorrect statement of facts and conception of the situation. You can buy to-day on one of the streets of Boston a better pair of shoes for \$4 than you could buy in 1880.

You can buy a barrel of flour in any one of the grocery stores of the city of Boston to-day just as cheap as you could in 1885. Now the people are more extravagant, and furthermore — I will say it myself, because I can look back to my boyhood days — the people to-day haven't got the thrift, they haven't got the saving instinct that our fathers had.

The President: Professor TAUSSIG.

Prof. F. W. Taussig, Harvard University

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Conference, the sole question which presents itself to this gathering on this topic is whether we shall agree that this is a matter which concerns not one country but all the countries of the civilized world, and indeed all the world. We are not here to consider questions of causes or of remedies. It may be that the gentleman who has preceded me could present to an international conference a full, complete and exhaustive answer to all the questions that concern themselves with the cost of living. If so, I am sure we hope he will do so if such a conference is called. Some of us believe that the subject is more complicated than it seems to him, that it deserves consideration not by one country but by all the countries. We believe there are difficulties more particularly with reference to ascertaining just what the situation is. The admirable report which has been presented by the National Hungarian Commercial Association suggests certain methods of compiling price statistics to be adopted uniformly by all the different countries. Those methods deserve consideration because we do not now know what is the extent of the change, — whether it is greater in the United States than in Germany, whether it is true, as some people think, that it is greater in the United States than in any other country. These things we do not know. In order to gain fair and full light upon the subject we need an international understanding as to the ways of ascertaining the extent of the phenomenon. Therefore it seems to me that this gathering can very well say "Let us take the initial step for an international conference for the uniform consideration of the subject, and let us not here attempt a discussion of why, how, how much, what any individual understands or what any individual proposes to do about it." I hope the motion in favor of the calling of an international conference will prevail. (*Applause.*)

The President: Mr. COOK.

Mr. F. W. Cook, Dudley (England) Chamber of Commerce

Mr. President and Gentlemen, I strongly support the proposition that has been made, that an International Conference be called on this question. In our own country a large discussion has been taking place with regard to the question of tariffs, and the boards of trade have been charged with the duty of going into various countries and trying to ascertain as far as possible what we call the standard of living or the prices of articles in the various countries. And the great factor that you have to consider is that you have a mass of evidence in front of you gathered from various sources and in different manners, but which is not at all comparable. What is wanted is a standard, a unit, from which the cost of living can be

taken, on which as a basis all your arguments can take place. A recent speaker, I think the speaker before the last, spoke about the high cost of living, but he also referred to the high standard of living, and that has to be acknowledged at the same time. I think certainly his contribution to our discussion this morning deserves some consideration from that point of view. It is not what we get, — it is the standard of our living, — the picture palace, if you like to take it, which is a necessity of the working man of to-day, and the whole range of luxury which he now brings into his standard of living. And I think in any statistics that are gathered for this purpose it would be wise, at any rate, for the Conference to have the standard of living in front of them as well as the high cost of living.

The Professor who read his paper spoke about the question of the dollar. I am not here to speak with regard to the question of the gold dollar, because, having been in the United States many times, I have never seen one yet, and I have always found the price of a green-back is always the same. So it seems to me the question of gold is solved in a very easy manner, if you abolish it and use paper as the medium of exchange.

And another matter that seems to strike me is this: That the tariff is certainly a question. I think if the United States had free trade, — I am only suggesting my own view, — something might be accomplished.

I only give these just as partial suggestions as to some of the things that may take place. But the main point is this, — that in any International Conference not only should they consider the unit of the cost of living in the various countries, but they should also consider the standard of living, — that is, the requirements of the ordinary population, what they consider their life.

The President: Mr. FILENE.

Mr. E. A. Filene, *Boston Chamber of Commerce; Vice-President of the Congress*

I had not intended to speak on this question, but I have been frightened lest the eloquence of my friend Mr. Canby may have undue influence, and that the implication of the gentleman on the left that this was not a business question might also have undue influence.

Gentlemen, there is no more important business question than this. No business man can succeed unless he has fairly stable conditions, and the stable conditions are largely dependent on the stability of the government under which the business man works. Now, gentlemen, I submit to you that no government in the world, be it republican or imperial, whatever its form, is safe if the proletariat finds it difficult or impossible to get food, clothing and shelter, — and on that basis, gentlemen, I submit to you that this is the most businesslike of business questions and deserves to be studied not alone for that reason but because in its solution we business men will have a large say. If it seems to us that this is a theoretical and a vague question, I call your attention to what is happening all over the world. In order not to infringe upon other countries, the sensitiveness of other countries, let me call attention to what has happened in this country. Within five years, gentlemen, these questions, which were termed vague, unbusinesslike, anarchical, if you please, by very many men, have come from that undefined realm to be the very questions which are at the basis of the platform of our political parties, on which we are waging our presidential election. Now, gentlemen, we know that a similar thing is happening in all countries of the world. Nothing, I repeat in closing, is more businesslike, nothing will conserve for us what is justly due to us as business men and will help us to do our duties to our country more than to make sure that the great mass of the people in every country shall get all our help, so that the cost of living will not be so high as to be insupportable.

M. le Président: Je n'ai plus d'orateurs inscrits, et je m'excuse si, lors de la discussion précédente, certains orateurs n'ont pas eu leur tour de parole. C'est, évidemment, qu'ils n'avaient pas été inscrits. C'est très involontairement de ma part si quelques-uns ont été oubliés.

(Translation)

I have no more speakers on my list, and trust I shall be excused if, during the discussion, certain speakers have not had a chance to take the floor. If such has been the case, it is evidently because they were not listed. It was entirely involuntary on my part if certain speakers have been overlooked.

M. Pierson: Je demande la parole.

(Translation)

I ask the floor.

M. le Président: M. PIERSON a la parole.

(Translation)

Mr. PIERSON has the floor.

Mr. J. Pierson, *Member of the Netherlands Chamber of Commerce, Paris*

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen, it is a great pleasure to me to have an opportunity to support the proposal of Prof. Irving Fisher, but only to a certain extent, viz., as far as it concerns the plan for an international inquiry on the cost of living.

A well-known European economist has said:

"Le meilleur remède contre la cherté c'est la cherté."

The best remedy against the rise in cost of living is the rise in cost of living.

The actual continual rise in price of all products is due to various causes, some people attributing it to the greater production of gold, and Professor Fisher seems to be one of them. For my part I think that the rise is mainly due to the higher standard of living and the greater requirements of all classes.

At a recent meeting of the "Société d'Économie Politique," a French economist has read a paper on this question, and it results from his investigations that there are, or better have been, constant waves of prices going up and going down at very regular intervals and for periods of several years.

We have now a few years since reached the bottom of one of these waves and are going up again.

As in various countries this question has been very seriously discussed by the most eminent economists. I think that there will be a great advantage to bring these economists together in an international congress and "du choc des idées jaillira la vérité."

There is one thing, however, against which I wish to warn. It would be a great danger for the cause of free trade, which, notwithstanding the protectionist tendency of the whole world, will have to come to the front again (I am thoroughly and firmly convinced of it), to attribute the rise in prices to protectionism. This, however, does not say that free intercourse between nations will not reduce prices. Free intercourse will enlarge the field. The larger the field, the greater will be the development of division of labor, and the more intense the division of labor will be the lower will be the cost of commodities produced, the greater will be the number of people that will see the prices of commodities come within the reach of their purchasing power.

As the greeting, kindly sent to us by the Boston Chamber of Commerce, requested our endeavors to get a better knowledge of international economic conditions and problems, I think the proposal of Professor Fisher must have the full support of this Congress as far as regards the International Congress for examination of the causes of the high cost of living.

But let me express a wish and permit me to say that I hope that this question of reduction of the cost of production will also be examined from the standpoint of a freer intercourse between nations so as to come to a more stable basis for intercourse than is now ruling with the absence of commercial treaties.

M. le Président: Messieurs, il n'y a plus d'orateurs inscrits, je vais mettre aux voix les résolutions. Les voici en français:

(Translation)

Gentlemen, there are no more speakers on the list. I will put the resolutions to a vote. Here they are in French:

Le congrès approuve la proposition de réunir une conférence internationale au sujet du prix élevé des choses nécessaires à la vie, de son augmentation, de ses causes, des effets qui en résultent, des mesures et remèdes possibles en vue d'une amélioration.

Le congrès transmet le projet et le rapport de l'Association nationale commerciale Hongroise pour la compilation harmonique de la statistique des prix au comité permanent, en vue de sa prise en considération et de sa remise éventuelle à une conférence internationale.

(The resolution in English)

The Congress approves the proposition of convoking an International Congress on the question of the high cost of living, its increase, its causes, its results and the measures and remedies possible to improve the situation.

The Congress transmits the project and the report of the Hungarian National Commercial Association, for the uniform compilation of statistics of prices, to the Permanent Committee, with the view of its taking it into consideration and referring it eventually to an international conference.

(The resolution in German)

Der Kongreß billigt den Vorschlag einer internationalen Konferenz über die Teuerung, ihren Umfang, die Methoden sie festzustellen, ihre Ursachen und Wirkungen und die möglichen Maßregeln für Abhilfe.

Der Kongreß beschließt, die Resolution und den Bericht des Nationalen Ungarischen Handelsvereins über eine gleichmäßige Preis-Statistik dem ständigen Komitee zu überweisen, damit es sie erwäge und einer etwa zu berufenden internationalen Konferenz unterbreite.

Que ceux qui sont d'avis d'adopter ces propositions veuillent bien lever la main. (*Lévé de mains.*) L'épreuve contraire. Le congrès adopte à l'unanimité.

(Translation)

Those in favor of adopting these propositions will raise the hand. (*Hands raised.*)

Contrary minded. The Congress adopts the resolutions unanimously.

INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION

M. le Président: Maintenant, messieurs, avant de terminer notre ordre du jour, avant de parler de l'endroit du prochain congrès, avant d'adresser à tous les remerciements que j'ai à cœur de vous adresser, j'ai une proposition à vous faire. Je vous fais cette proposition, messieurs, non pas tant comme président officiel que comme l'un des délégués du congrès venu d'Europe, parlant en son nom et au nom de nombreux congressistes désireux de donner aux congressistes d'Amérique la satisfaction qu'ils attendent, et que nous leur avons d'ailleurs toujours réservée au sujet de leurs désirs à propos des questions d'arbitrage.

Jusqu'à présent, les congrès ont été conduits en français, et en Europe, quand le français est parlé, il est compris par la majorité des auditeurs. Il n'en est pas de même ici, et c'est évidemment à cause de ce fait que certains malentendus, que je vais effacer complètement, soyez-en sûr, ont pu se produire. J'ai tenu jusqu'à présent à parler français, mais tantôt je m'exprimerai en anglais, mon anglais à moi. Il n'est peut-être pas très bon, mais je le parle moi-même.

Eh bien! messieurs, dans cette grande question de l'arbitrage, vous avez, il y a deux jours, adopté les conclusions du rapport préparé sur les différends entres particuliers et États.

"3. An international campaign is needed against medieval feudalism which has, within recent years, grown aggressive beyond all reasonable limits. It is not merely a question of national defense, but the larger proposition of international defense, which claims attention.

"The official world should be informed by the representatives appointed by the several governments attending this Congress that it must adjust itself to the requirements of international life, and abandon the minor conceptions of provincial politics.

"3a. Commercial men realize to the full the limitations of politicians and diplomatists, and that it is for the commercial world to take its destinies into its own hands and do their thinking for themselves as to the problems of to-day, including the organization of peace, of which commercial arbitration is an integral and not the least part. Indeed, it may be claimed that commercial arbitration constitutes the foremost plank in the platform of world-wide peace and solidarity.

"It is claimed that the interests of commerce, which provide so great a proportion of taxation, are neglected by the official world save where taxation is affected. In the future, ministries of commerce, commensurately staffed on a scale equal at least to that assigned to other ministries, should exercise controlling power in all countries.

"4. That the principles of Efficiency Engineering recently introduced into the universities of the United States, for systematizing plant and the machinery of business and getting the most out of everything, should be exercised by the ministries of commerce in the future to the advancement of commerce and industry, and the upbuilding of the common weal.

"5. That conferences such as that of this association serve to epitomize the well-considered judgment of the commercial world, and consistency requires that the principles approved by the accredited representatives of the commercial countries represented should regulate the future action of such constituent States."

Sir, I thank you for the opportunity to submit these propositions in support of your resolutions. (*Applause.*)

Mr. Jacob Heilborn, London Chamber of Commerce

Mr. President, you have so ably presented the resolution in French and English to this Congress that I believe every member understands it. Sir John E. Bingham is here. You have asked for a second to that resolution. I move that Sir John Bingham be now given the floor to second that resolution.

The President: The consul general of Japan has asked the floor to speak on this subject in a letter which I have received from him. However, he does not respond. Sir JOHN E. BINGHAM.

Sir John E. Bingham, Bart., London Chamber of Commerce

Mr. President, after your eloquent expressions on this subject I shall be brief. I am proud that you have taken up this subject as you have. I think it is the apex, I might almost say, of this great meeting. I think it should be, as it were, written in letters of gold, that we are all in this Congress, a combination of the nations of the world met here together, of one mind that when and where possible we should endeavor to prevent the atrocities of war. (*"Hear, hear!" and applause.*)

I was prepared, gentlemen, — but it turned out not to be in order — to send forward this resolution myself. In that I was supported by the concert of the London Chamber of Commerce and also of my native city of Sheffield. But I am prouder still that I do not bring forward this resolution, but that the President himself has brought it forward and has honored this convention by making it a resolution from his own lips. (*Applause.*)

I hope, and I know, that all of you gentlemen here present at this conference will exercise all over the world, in the countries which you represent, that power which you have and which it is to your interest, as representing the commercial interests of the world, more than to the interests of others, to exercise; for a war between two great nations might set back the commerce of the world for fifty years or more. Therefore, it is to your interest to support, to back the resolution of our President and to give *bon voyage* to the resolution. (*Applause.*)

Mr. Frank D. La Lanne, *Philadelphia Board of Trade*

Mr. President and Gentlemen, I consider it a distinguished honor to be permitted to address you in the closing minutes of this session. I think we should all feel highly gratified that this principle, so near to the heart of every delegate from every nation, should have been recognized by our distinguished President, and that he himself should have brought in this resolution, which I have high honor in seconding.

I represent the United States Government, and I have received two letters from the Department of State, of which I will give a synopsis.

To-day more than ever the executive of the world is public opinion, and the nations of the world cannot disregard the words of a great Congress like this, which represents the sentiments of all the business world. Your decision to-day to approve of this principle will be known in every chancellery of the world to-night, and I sincerely hope, gentlemen, that we are a unit in the thought that the continuity of the business interests of the world demand that there shall be an arbitral court of justice to prevent future wars, which destroy our lives commercially.

The Secretary of State of the United States, whom I represent, the Hon. Philander C. Knox, directs me to say that the responses to his note along this identical line, sent out a few months ago as a circular note to all the nations of the world, manifest such a willingness and desire on the part of the leading nations to constitute a court of arbitral justice, that he believes a permanent court, of purely judicial arbitral responsibility, composed of judges acting with a sense of their responsibility and representing the various nations, will be established in the very near future. The assent and approval of this Congress will be highly appreciated by my government.

Gentlemen, I thank you.

M. le Président: M. SHONINGER a demandé la parole.

(Translation)

Mr. SHONINGER has asked the floor.

Mr. Bernard J. Shoninger, *American Chamber of Commerce of Paris*

Mr. President and Gentlemen, my desire to remove a misunderstanding having become, unwittingly as well as unwillingly on my part, the point of departure for rather unexampled behavior on the part of some one else later, I think it now behooves me to express myself and to say how much satisfaction and how much extreme pleasure it gives me that the President himself should have taken the initiative, of which you see the result in these resolutions. (Applause.)

Owing to the experience we have had in connection with this matter, it has been suggested by a number of the delegates, my colleagues, that a word might be said at this point. This matter is to be submitted for future consideration, and I beg leave to read these, so that they can be put upon the order of business for another Congress. In the light of experience at this Congress, and to avoid misunderstandings and disappointments in the future, we will submit the following propositions for study and consideration: "All papers" —

Mr. F. W. Cook, J. P. (Dudley, England): Mr. President, is this in order before the resolution is put? I rise to a point of order; we have business pending before the body

Mr. Shoninger: I am coming to it.

The President: Will you finish in a minute?

Mr. Shoninger: This will take two minutes.

Sir Joseph Lawrence: I move that the first resolution be put to the meeting.

Mr. Shoninger: If you will permit me, I will afterwards take the floor, because my intention was merely to say a word because of my innocence in having —

Sir Joseph Lawrence: The resolution first. (*Cries of "Vote! Question!"*)

Mr. Shoninger: Take the vote and then the matter can be explained further.

The President: I have a final request from a delegate from China, Dr. Chin-tao Chen. Is he here?

Dr. Chin-tao Chen, M.S.: I want to speak on another question which will come after this motion is disposed of.

M. le Président: Je vous propose maintenant le vote de la résolution dont je vais donner lecture dans les trois langues.

Ceux qui sont d'avis d'adopter la résolution voudront bien lever la main. (*Levée de mains.*) L'épreuve contraire. (*Personne ne lève la main.*)

(*Cris de "Hip! Hip! Hourrah! Hip! Hip! Hourrah!" Applaudissements.*)

(*Translation*)

I will now present to you for vote the resolution which I will have read in the three languages. (*Resolution read in three languages.*)

Those in favor of adopting the resolution will please raise their hands. (*Raising of hands.*) Those opposed. (*No hands raised.*)

(*Cheers and applause.*)

INVITATIONS FOR THE NEXT CONGRESS

M. le Président: Maintenant, messieurs, en terminant nos travaux, je dois vous donner connaissance des invitations qui nous sont parvenues pour le prochain congrès.

(*Translation*)

Now, Gentlemen, in closing our labors I wish to advise you of the invitations, which have come to us for the next Congress.

(*Continuing in English*)

Our next meeting will be held in two years. We have received an invitation from Barcelona, Spain, from Geneva, Switzerland, from Amsterdam, Holland, from Monaco (*laughter*), from Leipzig, Germany, and from Lisbon, Portugal. As a rule, the choice of the next place for the session is given to the Permanent Committee. I suppose, as we have so many invitations, it would be a good thing at this time to leave the question in the hands of the Permanent Committee to decide. Do you agree?

(*There being no dissent, it was decided to leave the choice of the next place for meeting to the Permanent Committee.*)

Mr. Filene: Gentlemen, we have an invitation from the merchants of St. Louis, that all delegates may come to visit them. They assure you a good time. You will find it printed in full in the *Boston Chamber of Commerce News* to-morrow.

(*The telegram referred to was as follows:*)

St. Louis, Sept. 25, 1912.

Mr. ALFRED ASLETT,

Chambers of Commerce, Boston, Mass.

St. Louis has extended a cordial invitation to members of the Congress to visit St. Louis, and our Business Men's League will most heartily entertain whatever number of representatives visit us. I trust to greet you and all the friends of the Campana and all others who will accompany you. Please see that the members of the Congress are made aware of the invitation. Wire answer at my expense, care the Business Men's League.

(Signed)

GOODMAN KING.

M. le Président: M. LAZARD a la parole pour une motion d'ordre.

(Translation)

Mr. LAZARD has the floor for a point of order.

CONTRIBUTION FOR THE POOR OF BOSTON

Mr. Louis Lazard, Chamber of Commerce, Brussels: Since we landed in the beautiful city of Boston we have been most cordially received. Our hosts, who are full of verve and charm, have managed for the delegates the most wonderful reception. (*Applause.*) All of us appreciate very highly their kindness and their attentions. Although knowing well the American hospitality, the way we have been treated is above all expectation. (*"Hear, hear!"*) And how can we foreigners return the courtesies extended to us? It is too late now to organize a banquet. The Brussels delegation, on behalf of which I am speaking, wants to suggest that the visiting members of the Congress open a subscription, the full amount of which would be turned over to the Honorable Mayor for the poor of Boston. (*Applause.*) Thus doing, we should ally charity to thankfulness, and I hope our Boston friends would appreciate our donation. If our proposition goes through — as I sincerely hope and expect — I should suggest that the Committee make the necessary arrangements for collecting the contribution — the amount of which, in our opinion, should be fixed at \$5 each. (*Applause.*)

M. le Président: Je prie, pour notification, ceux d'entre vous qui voudront bien se rendre à l'invitation de M. Lazard, de s'adresser au secrétaire. Il est clair que nous ne pouvons obliger personne.

(Translation)

As a matter of information, I would like to ask those of you who wish to accept the invitation of Mr. Lazard to advise the Secretary. It is clear that we cannot oblige any one to do this.

TERMINATION OF THE SESSION

M. le Président: Maintenant, messieurs, je me lève pour terminer la session et pour adresser à tous les remerciements auxquels ils ont droit.

Je remercie tout d'abord le président des États-Unis, M. Taft, qui nous fait l'honneur ce soir, d'être présent au banquet de clôture.

Je remercie les autorités de l'État du Massachusetts, en la personne du gouverneur, que nous avons été heureux de rencontrer; et la cité de Boston, en la personne de son maire, que nous avons pu apprécier depuis notre arrivée à Boston.

Je remercie tous les délégués officiels des gouvernements, qui ont bien voulu par leur présence rehausser l'éclat de cette cérémonie internationale et mondiale.

Je remercie, messieurs, tout spécialement la Chambre de commerce de Boston. Pour

elle, je l'ai dit déjà et je me propose de la redire ce soir, nous n'avons pas de mots suffisants pour exprimer nos sentiments.

Je remercie aussi les industriels qui nous reçoivent, qui nous ouvrent toutes larges les portes de leurs usines et qui nous montreront les merveilles de l'industrie et de la science américaines.

Je remercie, messieurs, tous les clubs de la ville, qui nous ont si agréablement donné le libre accès de leurs locaux.

Nous nous sentons absolument chez nous et nous emporterons de Boston un souvenir ineffaçable.

Enfin, *last but not least*, je remercie la presse, les journalistes, ces travailleurs de tous les instants, qui ont, eux, le *hard labor*, alors que nous, nous sommes en banquets et en réjouissance. Je reconnais tout leur zèle. Et à vous tous, au nom des délégués venus de tous les coins du monde pour assister à ce merveilleux congrès de Boston, de tout mon cœur, je vous dis: merci.

(Translation)

Now, Gentlemen, I rise to close the session and to express to all the thanks to which they are entitled.

I thank first of all the President of the United States, Mr. Taft, who will do us the honor this evening to be present at our closing banquet.

I thank the authorities of the State of Massachusetts in the person of the Governor, whom we have been delighted to meet; and the City of Boston in the person of its Mayor, whom we have learned to appreciate since our arrival in Boston.

I thank all the official delegates of the governments, who have by their presence heightened the brilliancy of this international and world-wide ceremony.

I thank, gentlemen, most particularly, the Chamber of Commerce of Boston. As I have already said and as I propose to repeat this evening, we can find no words sufficient to express our sentiments.

I thank also the manufacturers who welcome us, who open wide to us the doors of their establishments and will display to us the marvels of American industry and science.

I thank, gentlemen, all the clubs of the city who have so kindly given us the liberty of their houses.

We feel ourselves absolutely at home, and we shall carry away indelible memories of Boston.

Finally, "last but not least," I thank the press, the journalists, these unceasing workers who have for their part the "hard labor" while we ourselves are at the banquets and entertainments. I appreciate their zeal. And to you all, in the name of the delegates gathered from all the corners of the world to attend this wonderful Congress of Boston, with all my heart I say: I thank you.

Mr. Filene: One moment, gentlemen, please — Sir JOSEPH LAWRENCE. (*Applause.*)

Sir Joseph Lawrence: Gentlemen, on behalf and in the name of you all I must, in the name of the London Chamber of Commerce, probably the oldest Chamber of Commerce in the world, propose a cordial vote of thanks to our distinguished President, M. Canon-Legrand, and to thank him for the dignity and efficiency with which he has conducted the proceedings.

As a former member myself of the British House of Commons I have winced sometimes under the rulings of the Speaker of my own House. Many of us have winced under his rulings, but we have always recognized at the end of a session not only his general courtesy but his absolute impartiality and fairness. In that sense, gentlemen, whatever ripples may have passed over the surface of our proceedings, we all recognize that the President of the gathering, this world-wide Congress, has endeavored to conduct the proceedings for the best efficiency of all concerned. (*"Hear, hear!" and applause.*)

In that spirit of thankfulness, I ask you to join with me in according him your heartiest

thanks for the way in which he has presided over the proceedings of this conference. I do not think that that needs really to be put in the form of a motion. It hardly needs to be seconded. If you should agree with the spirit of the motion —

Mr. Filene: It is going to be seconded by Mr. Shoninger, in a moment, and then the motion can be put.

Mr. Shoninger: Mr. President, as president of the American Chamber of Commerce in France, representing American and also French interests, I heartily second the motion which has now been made. I will leave it to Sir Joseph Lawrence to take the vote, which I know must be unanimous on the subject. (*Applause.*)

Sir Joseph Lawrence: Gentlemen, those of you who are in favor of that motion will signify the same by acclamation.

(The motion was unanimously carried by acclamation, amid applause.)

Mr. H. Z. Osborne (*Los Angeles*): Mr. President and Members of the Congress, speaking as a delegate from the Chamber of Commerce of the City of Los Angeles, of which I have the honor to be president, but speaking still more for that great organization of survivors of the great Civil War of fifty years ago, of which organization I have the honor to be the second officer, I wish to say that the action of this Congress taken this day meets with the hearty approval of the 500,000 survivors of the Civil War of 1861-1865, who knew full well all the horrors of war. Gentlemen, on their behalf I thank you for this expression in favor of universal peace. (*Applause.*)

M. le Président: La séance est levée.

(Translation)

The session is ended.

The President declared the Congress adjourned at 1.20 P.M.

The Banquet

ADDRESS OF JOSEPH B. RUSSELL

President of Boston Chamber of Commerce

This is a day of great happiness to the Boston Chamber of Commerce. To-night it sees as its guests, not only the many distinguished gentlemen who have gathered together from the four corners of the earth as delegates to the Fifth International Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the world, but also the noted men who have come here to join with us in extending a warm welcome and hearty greetings to our friends. We cordially welcome these delegates to our city, and to all that our Chamber affords. They truly represent all that is foremost and best in commercial activities — and commercial activities are no longer confined to the narrow realm which marked the past. To-day the grave questions which have occupied your attention, the broadest and most far-reaching, and such great questions as that of conservation — and I do not mean the mere conservation of mines, of forests and of forest streams, but all that pertains to the conservation of human life, of human health and human energy — are regarded as of supreme importance in all commercial bodies.

Gentlemen, for some two years the Boston Chamber of Commerce has worked with zeal and industry, first, to bring to our city this distinguished body of men; and when the news reached us that Boston was chosen for the meeting place for this Congress, then began our more serious task to leave no stone unturned to make this Fifth Congress ever remembered by all participating in its deliberations as the most noted meeting in all its successful career. How far we have fallen short in our high ambition we must leave to others, but this was our wish, this was our hope, and the extent of our failure, whatever it may be, but marks our lack of knowledge and experience. Our heart and soul were in it, and in all ways and from all directions we received that prompt and willing help which we had a right to expect from a generous community anxious to honor our noted guests, and to do credit to our own fair city.

It is a great gratification to have with us to-night the Nation's President to bring to you the Nation's greeting. (*Applause.*) For the lofty office which he so well fills we all have the most profound respect, and whatever may be our party ties or political faith, the one who to-day occupies that high position has personally our admiration and esteem. No matter how strenuous may seem our present political struggle, I believe that all reasonable men do surely recognize in him the high-minded statesman, who has weighed the many and intricate problems of government which have come before him, by the standard of highest integrity and truest sincerity alone. (*Applause.*)

I present to you the PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. (*Great applause.*)

ADDRESS OF HONORABLE WILLIAM H. TAFT

President of the United States of America

Mr. Chairman, Delegates to the International Convention of Chambers of Commerce:

On behalf of the people, the Government and the Congress of the United States I bid you welcome. (*Applause.*) After the Chamber of Commerce of Boston had secured the meeting of this International Convention in this city, then, with that generosity that distinguishes

Congress (*laughter*), it passed a resolution requesting me to extend a cordial invitation to the chambers of commerce of the world through their governments, and having extended the invitation and secured the acceptance, it referred the matter to the Chamber of Commerce of the City of Boston with power to act. (*Prolonged laughter.*) And I need not say to you, my fellow guests, that the reference was to a body competent to meet the obligations of hospitality. (*Cheers.*)

There are a number of results that I am sure will follow this symbolic gathering of the nerves of trade from the world over. We think we know a good deal in the United States about everything (*laughter*), and one of the happy things in the future is the number of surprises that are in store for us upon that particular subject. (*Renewed laughter.*) And one of the good results to which I have referred, I hope, is the influence which this convention will have upon the responsible, governmental authorities and the people of the United States in convincing them of the necessity of associating in their governmental methods and in finding out the right courses to pursue in those methods of government that are akin to business ("hear, hear!"), — in associating with us the business men in their commercial bodies. (*Applause.*)

We know — that is, some of us know who have had occasion to study the subject — that the chambers of commerce of other countries have even an official or a semi-official relation to the government that gives them a real authority and a real influence in determining the course of the government in reference to matters that are akin to business (*applause*), and that while we all believe in popular government, we believe that some people know more about some things than other people (*laughter and applause*), and that the way to help all the people is to get the information at first hand from those who are best informed on the subject. ("Bravo!" and *applause*.)

Now we cannot expect a government to be run exactly as a business establishment is run. That would be impossible, and it might not be well, either. But there are a great many methods that have been proven to be useful and necessary in business in accomplishing good results that might be incorporated into our governmental methods in this country. (*Applause.*) We have been able to get along so well in this country because there were so many sources of taxation (*great laughter*), because the surpluses were so frequent that we have not had the occasion to consult the question of income as much, perhaps, as some countries older and less fortunately situated with respect to that subject matter. But we are coming to a time when it seems to me that unless we are to continue to do business as children we ought to adopt a system of government bookkeeping and have a budget and know what we wish to spend and know what we have to spend before we go ahead to do either. (*Applause.*)

Then we are engaged in levying a customs duty and internal revenue. Now I say that we ought to learn and know before we lay either the customs duty or the internal revenue what its effect is going to be upon business. (*Applause.*) We ought to pursue the methods pursued by the foreign governments whose delegates I have the honor to address. We ought to have bureaus of statistics and accurate information on all the subjects that will enable us to judge what the effect of laws to be passed will be upon trade and commerce. (*Applause.*)

Then we have gotten along thus far, with the help of Providence (*laughter*), with a system of banking and currency that no man can defend (*applause*), but that seems the last subject that Congress wishes to take up. (*Laughter.*) Now that is a subject matter that affects every one and affects most nearly the humblest and the poorest and those least able to protect themselves, and therefore it ought to be disposed of in a scientific way. The reform ought to be carried on to a successful result by reference to bodies — chambers of commerce, banking associations and others — who are charged with that scientific knowledge of the needs of trade with reference to currency and banking, so that when we act we shall act intelligently and act with respect to a matter of greater importance, I think, than possibly any other that I could mention to this body. (*Applause.*)

So much, my friends, — and there are lots of other things that we can learn from the foreign delegates here and the methods pursued in those governments with reference to the

consultation of chambers of commerce, but my time is limited and I wish only to speak of another subject, not the influence upon this country by the coming of these delegates and these chambers of commerce, but the influence upon the world of their coming here to meet us and our meeting them. You come here for trade — to promote trade — and trade is peace. (*"Hear, hear!" and applause.*) And if trade had no other good thing connected with it, the motive, the selfish motive in love of trade that keeps off war in order that trade may continue, is a sufficient thing to keep up trade for. (*Applause.*)

I am not going to bore you with a reference to what can be done toward peace, for I have talked all over the country on that subject till those of my audience who are American citizens are tired of it (*"no, no"*) but I believe that we must have some solution of the problem that arises and some escape in the future from the burden that is imposed by this increasing armament of nations. (*"Hear, hear!" and applause.*) And you will never have the solution until you have furnished some means of certainly and honorably settling every international controversy, whether of honor or vital interest (*"hear, hear!"*), by a court upon which all nations may rely. (*Great applause.*) And if, as I believe, meetings like this stimulate the desire and the determination to reach some such result, I hope they may continue year after year until the dawn of permanent peace shall be with us. (*Prolonged and enthusiastic cheering, culminating in three cheers and a "tiger."*)

President Russell, *Boston Chamber of Commerce*

His Excellency the Governor of our state is with us to-night to join in our warm welcome to all our honored guests. Some of us thought he might be our next President, but it seems not to be at once, and so for him a little longer the pleasures of anticipation; and what more delightful, especially to one whose hand is already guiding the plow with a pretty substantial field to keep in order, bearing some weeds and an occasional thistle. (*Laughter.*)

I present to you HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR OF MASSACHUSETTS. (*Applause.*)

ADDRESS OF HONORABLE EUGENE N. FOSS

Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Gentlemen, this Congress, representing the commerce and the commercial nations of the world, marks the beginning of a new era for America. It is prophetic of closer trade relations between this country and the rest of the world. It constitutes a most effective pledge for the continuance of amicable international relations, of stronger business friendships and more effective international understandings.

You have come to Boston at the time when our entire country is tending toward a broader commercial policy, a policy which is to take especial cognizance of the foreign trade. In Massachusetts, as in other sections of the country, we have been passing through a period of rapid organization and commercial expansion. Our mills and factories have multiplied, and their product has outgrown our domestic markets. We are seeking an outlet abroad for our surplus products. It is, therefore, singularly appropriate that at this juncture the opportunity should be given us of entertaining the representatives of all the industrial world; of welcoming them to our industrial centers, acquainting them with New England and American enterprise, and forming those new business friendships which will remain as permanent factors in our further growth.

We shall not continue the mistake which for fifty years has marred our commercial policy. The trade relations which bind the manufacturer of Massachusetts to the merchant of London, Antwerp or Hong Kong must be placed upon a basis of mutual interest. We are just beginning to realize the necessity of establishing such relations. If we are to continue the sale of our goods abroad, we must in turn become purchasers from other countries.

It is fortunate that the recognition of these fundamental principles is now universal in the United States. This is no longer the exclusive political doctrine of any one party; it is a national demand. You will see this demand expressed in its highest terms in the Panama Canal; and you will find the same determination bringing about the development of the Port of Boston, and of other great seacoast and inland harbors on this continent. You will find boards of public commissioners working on the problem of dredging our principal rivers, and fixing the location of future seaports, not only at the mouths of the rivers, but, as in Europe, far inland in the heart of great manufacturing centers. We are becoming a maritime people, equipping ourselves to do business with the rest of the world.

It is a further earnest of this sentiment and of the recognition of the rights of others that in the recent Panama Canal Bill, American ships engaged in foreign trade are given no selfish advantage over the ships of other countries. (*Applause.*) The reservation which has been established in favor of American-built ships, engaged in coastwise traffic along our own shores is one which appears to be wholly consistent with established usages. But I hope that in time the absolute freedom and equality of the Canal to all may become established forever as the contribution of the United States to the commerce and progress of civilization. (*Applause.*)

Gentlemen, this Congress comes at a time which is rendered still more significant of future commercial expansion by our awakening recognition of the principle of Reciprocity. Our foreign guests have come to a country which, during the past half century, has attained a wonderful industrial and financial growth, by reason of that complete reciprocity of trade which marks the relations of each state with all the others in our Union. Among the nearly fifty separate governments within the United States each has built up its commercial relations with the others, without restrictions and without fear or favoritism. Some of these states exceed in territory the limits of foreign nations, which have grown to the foremost commercial rank. Others you will find that exceed in wealth and population some of the sovereignties of other lands. These states have prospered through reciprocity and mutual understanding, each profiting by the industrial benefits it has conferred upon the others.

You have come to Massachusetts at a time when we are at last realizing that the same ties should bind us to other peoples and other countries. Massachusetts realizes her debt of gratitude to President Taft for giving official expression to this neglected principle. You will find the people of New England joining with other sections of the country in offering to Canada a declaration of closer trade relations; and I believe that the lack of these relations to-day is due only to transient motives which a stronger mutual confidence will quickly overcome.

You will find the great industrial centers of Massachusetts and New England (and I believe of the rest of the country as well), open-minded to the extension of reciprocal trade treaties to still other nations, in fact to all quarters of the globe, to the greatest degree consistent with the maintenance of American standards of life and labor. You will without doubt view with interest as a further sign of the times the activity in our great ship-building centers, and you will find that we are building right here, within the limits of Greater Boston, ships that are fitted for all the demands of modern commerce.

You will find the people of Boston aroused to the development of our great seaport. We recognize in the natural location of Boston, in its wonderful harbor and the industrial communities around it, the logical marine frontier of this country opening toward the great markets of Europe. We are resolved that Boston shall be equipped in accordance with the exacting demands of modern commerce to accommodate the merchant fleets of the world. We are looking even northward to Canada, believing Boston to be the natural seaport for the manufacturing and agricultural communities of that country. In anticipation of closer commercial relations with Canada and Europe we have invited to Boston one of the principal railroads of Canada — the Grand Trunk. You will find the people of Massachusetts earnestly resolved to effect the greatest possible development of marine transportation, not only coastwise, but transatlantic.

We are at the dawn of our own era of commercial expansion. With the extension of our foreign trade, and the development of our coastwise and interior waterways, our rivers, canals and harbors, you will find us fitting ourselves for constantly broadening trade relations with yourselves. The people of this Commonwealth would be proud at any time to welcome the most distinguished commercial conference in the world, but they are particularly gratified that you should have come here to mark for American history the beginning of our own broader industrial and commercial life. (*Applause.*)

President Russell, Boston Chamber of Commerce

His Honor the Mayor of Boston also comes to give you greeting. To us here he needs no introduction. To those from afar I can give assurance that his tireless energy in all that tends to the development of our city is an inspiration and a lesson. Another year may see him sitting in the highest councils of our land; but whether in Washington or in Boston, wherever he may be, there we know stands a zealous advocate of the interests of our state, a loyal champion for the welfare of our city.

I present to you HIS HONOR THE MAYOR OF BOSTON. (*Applause.*)

ADDRESS OF HONORABLE JOHN F. FITZGERALD

Mayor of the City of Boston

Gentlemen, now that our serious labors are ended, we meet before parting to speak the final words of review and felicitation. The results of this Congress have, I am assured, been such as to justify the sacrifices which it involved, but above all its concrete enactments and salutary reforms I place those intangible values that do not figure in the program, but are incidental to our personal intercourse.

The commerce of ideas, after all, is more generous, or at least more enlightened, than the commerce of commodities. By one of those paradoxes which are found in the spiritual life each side wishes the other to be the gainer. This is the amicable traffic in which we have been engaged during the last few days. We trust that our guests have profited by their visit to Boston, though it is not for us to say in what manner or to what degree. Our own debt is certainly so large that we scarcely venture to express it for fear of seeming to exaggerate. It is enough to say, gentlemen, that your presence has stimulated us to new aspirations and has awakened larger visions in our hearts and minds.

Such conventions, I repeat, find their highest sanction in the strength which they impart to the sense of interdependence among nations, which is, without doubt, their prime motive and original inspiration. They assume that the whole world of production, credit and exchange is in a state of equilibrium so that a disturbance in any one market causes oscillation over the entire civilized earth; and this view is amply justified by recent events. The tremors of the San Francisco earthquake were felt in the insurance companies of London. The war in Manchuria was reflected in the violent dance of prices on the Paris Bourse. A drought in India may determine the quotations for wheat in New York, and failures in Argentina have precipitated a disastrous panic. To preserve the universal stability which is necessary for the conduct of business is one chief aim of your assemblies.

What is true of calamities is no less true of benefits. It is conceivable that a traveler journeying from Portugal to Russia might find a different railroad gage at every frontier, but such impediments to the free movement of trade would be a poor expression of patriotism. A difference of an inch between nation and nation would prevent travel at express speed for long distances, thereby causing delay, and would compel the needless duplication of rolling stock, thus increasing cost. In the United States one width of rail prevails across the continent and the adoption of this uniform standard would be an advantage everywhere. My illustration is merely imaginary, but the principle is clear. Every device for increasing speed,

or saving life, or diminishing the discomforts of travel becomes internationalized sooner or later and ceases to be the exclusive property of the nation in which it originates. The electric engine, the air brake, the refrigerator car belong to no people, but diffuse themselves with other beneficial inventions over the entire world. It is such a diffusion, not of mere appliances alone, but of forms and regulations as well, that your Congress aims to promote, as it eliminates differences and compels local usage to conform to the requirements of the world's larger interests.

This is, after all, only a new application of science to practical affairs. We know what science has accomplished for agriculture in the study of the chemistry of soils, the selection of seeds, the relation of birds to the control of pests, and of bees and other insects to fertilization. By no magic wand, but through reason and experience guided by imagination, she has bidden the earth to teem with manifold abundance. In manufacturing, mining, forestry, irrigation, drainage and the conservation of water supply, the engineer and the expert now exercise an unquestioned authority. Similar studies and the creation of a similar body of experts will fortify commerce in the same degree by reducing waste and cultivating facility in administrative and fiscal methods. Your collective importance and economic function are not inferior to those of the other interests which I have mentioned.

As it happens, gentlemen, there is a certain felicity in your visit to Boston which has not been pointed out by any other speaker. I do not know any class that appeals to the people of this city more than that which you represent. The traditions of our community uphold the merchant as the highest type of citizen. The nature of his occupation forbids seclusion and aloofness, and brings him into personal contact with his fellowmen. Out of the sense of reciprocal obligation thus created flow those noble benefactions which are so common in our history.

Art, scholarship and philanthropy are residuary heirs of the labors and accumulations of the captains of industry. Franklin, Lowell, Perkins, Carney, Arnold, McKay, Brigham, Parkman, Wentworth — these men of the world cherished to the end something unworldly and saw through the murk and confusion of the daily struggle the better day that is approaching. They grasped the broad conception that wealth is a trust of which all mankind and not merely a narrow circle should be the beneficiaries. Hospitals, schools, museums and parks, free to all, perpetuate their names and offer to future generations examples of a wise liberality.

As becomes a city of merchants, the people of Boston are not easily held in subjection. The first settlers were of the English middle class, industrious, self-sustaining and aggressive. From the beginning they displayed a free, indomitable spirit, which awakened alarm, and at the same time excited admiration among the British statesmen. In the War of American Independence orators of Boston took the lead, and the first pitched battle — the Battle of Bunker Hill — was fought within the confines of the present city. In the War of 1812 our sailors did not hesitate to challenge the greatest sea power in the world.

A tradition of sympathy with sufferers and freedom lovers everywhere grew out of these early conflicts and has continued to the present day. Whether the appeal comes from victims of natural disasters, such as earthquakes or floods, or refugees from political tyranny, or apostles of social amelioration, our response has ever been quick and generous. The movement to abolish American slavery, for example, may be said to have had its birth in Boston, and we are about to erect a monument to its foremost orator, Wendell Phillips, the son of our first Mayor. Faneuil Hall, which some of you may have seen, is affectionately known all over this country as "The Cradle of Liberty," from the meetings which have been held there in behalf of patriotic and humanitarian causes.

A high sense of civic obligation is characteristic of the citizens of Boston. Every class responds with fervor to the call of public duty. During our Civil War fully half the adult males served as soldiers. Harvard University alone sent over fifteen hundred volunteers, a large percentage of its graduates and students. In times of peace the city drafts into its service on the various boards of government able men who labor without compensation for the good of their fellow citizens.

Our appreciation of human values finds no more significant expression than in the sacrifices made for public education. We realize that our chief asset in New England is not the sea or the water power in our tumbling rivers, and assuredly not the fertility of the somewhat niggardly soil, but our own manhood and womanhood, the quality of which we strive to maintain by careful training given to the minds and bodies of the young. Our school children, an army more than one hundred thousand strong, are the objects of our tenderest solicitude, which is revealed not only by lavish public expenditures, but through the participation of all classes of citizens in the problems of juvenile education. Only a week ago the Central Labor Union, a body representing the allied trade unions of the city, passed resolutions in favor of a different form of organization for the school committee.

That culture in the higher phases flourishes among us needs no demonstration before a gathering which, itself, represents the culture as well as the commercial enterprise and integrity of forty nations. The chief literary school of America had its seat in Boston in the middle of the last century. Such names as Hawthorne, Emerson, Longfellow, Lowell, Whittier and Holmes suggest to readers of English literature a certain refined beauty and serene idealism as well as moral ardor. We are proud of this poetic group; of our statesmen, jurists, artists and divines; and of the universities and technological institutes, famous far beyond the borders of this country, which complete the educational structure.

The government of Boston ministers to the wants of the citizens more assiduously perhaps than that of any other American municipality. The benefits of our libraries, parks, baths, gymnasiums and concerts are open to all. In the treatment of tuberculosis we have pointed the path in which others are following. A pension system provides for teacher, laborers, military veterans, firemen and policemen, who, from advanced age or other causes, are unable to continue at work. City labor is well paid on the theory that the government as an employer should set a conspicuous example of humanity and justice. Foreign cities which pride themselves on their spirit of progress find that Boston has anticipated them in many of their beneficent undertakings.

Such are the fruits of civic policy in an industrial democracy led by captains promoted from its own ranks. In reviewing thus briefly some of its aspects I do not feel that I am digressing. I merely expand my agreeable theme of community and resemblance between visitors and ourselves. You, too, gentlemen, are in the main residents of cities, striving, as we are, to make these centers of productions, which are more and more gathering the population within their precincts, worthy places of habitation, for the generations which are to follow us.

Let us, then, forget all differences to-night, if any differences exist beyond the superficial distinctions of language and custom, and pay tribute to the spirit of human brotherhood. There are many islands but only one ocean, and that is the heritage of all the sons of Adam. This common possession, this liquid emerald without price, unites us all—north, south, east and west—in ever increasing facility of intercourse and ever strengthening bonds of friendship. Grant that variety has its value and individuality must be preserved at any cost, yet the blood in our veins is of one color and the world will be better when all men can meet, as we have met this week, in the spirit of full-souled unity and mutual concession. Such gatherings forecast the golden age when peace and law shall reign over a world too long tormented by unprofitable dissensions. This, gentlemen, is the fairest fruit of your Congress, which has brought honor to our city, our state and our country. (*Applause.*)

President Russell, Boston Chamber of Commerce

It is now my pleasant privilege to present to you one who, probably more than any other, is responsible for the inception of the International Congress of Chambers of Commerce, and who through his earnest zeal and great ability has done much to bring to it the commanding position of influence which it to-day holds. He was its first President, and is now its Presi-

dent. The highest honor within the gift of the commercial bodies of the world has been tendered to him year after year. Well known by his work in all civilized countries, his influence has permeated to the furthestmost corners of the earth.

I present to you Mr. LOUIS CANON-LEGRAND.

ADDRESS OF MONSIEUR LOUIS CANON-LEGRAND

President of the Fifth International Congress of Chambers of Commerce; President of the Permanent Committee of the International Congress

Monsieur le Président de la Chambre de commerce de Boston,
Monsieur le Président des États-Unis:

C'est un grand honneur pour moi, au nom de tous les délégués étrangers, de prendre la parole dans une assemblée aussi importante que celle-ci, à la fin des travaux du Cinquième Congrès International des Chambres de Commerce et des Associations Commerciales et Industrielles du monde entier.

Comme orateurs devant répondre à vos aimables discours, trois d'entre nous ont été désignés, et, dans l'ordre des congrès tenus précédemment, il se fait qu'en parlant français, je représente la région moyenne de l'Europe; que M. Salmoiraghi, parlant en italien, personnifiera le midi, et que M. Faithfull Begg, en anglais, parlera pour les pays du nord. Il va sans dire que si l'on n'avait dû se borner, c'est dans toutes les autres langues de la terre qu'il se serait élevé un concert d'éloges et de remerciement.

Notre œuvre des congrès a toujours été accueillie avec faveur par les gouvernements, les ministres, les princes et les monarques d'Europe, mais cette fois la réception dont nous sommes gratifiés est à la taille de ceux qui nous reçoivent: c'est une grandiose réception américaine.

Aux autorités de ce beau pays de Massachusetts et de Boston, a bien voulu se joindre le premier citoyen des États-Unis, M. le Président Taft. Je tiens, au nom de toutes les nations du monde ici présentes, à lui adresser, avec notre salut respectueux, l'expression de notre vive et bien sincère gratitude.

(Translation)

Mr. President of the Boston Chamber of Commerce,
Mr. President of the United States:

It is a great honor for me, on behalf of all the foreign delegates, to raise my voice in an assembly as important as the present one, at the close of the work of the Fifth International Congress of the Chambers of Commerce and of the Commercial and Industrial Associations of the entire world.

Three among our number have been selected as speakers to respond to your kind remarks and, following the order in the Congresses previously held, it appears that, in addressing you in French, I represent the central part of Europe; that Mr. Salmoiraghi, speaking in Italian, will represent the South, and Mr. Faithfull Begg, in English, will speak for the countries of the North. It goes without saying that if we were not limited, a concert of praise and thanksgiving would have been raised in all the languages of the earth.

The work of our congresses has always been greeted with favor by the governments, ministers, princes and monarchs of Europe, but this time the reception with which we are honored equals the greatness of those who received us; it is a magnificent American reception.

The first citizen of the United States, Mr. Taft, the President, has graciously united with the dignitaries of this beautiful land of Massachusetts and of Boston. On behalf of all the nations of the world here present I wish to present to him, together with our respectful greetings, the assurance of our heartfelt and most sincere gratitude.

(Continuing in English)

The work of our International Congress of Chambers of Commerce is one of peace and concord. It brings into contact men of the same mentality and of equal abilities, who are not slow to agree on all practical questions that can be realized. It is also in our assemblies that propositions of humanitarianism and arbitration are seen to arise; it is in the contact of merchants and men of industry that one becomes the more easily convinced of the absurdity of wars, and the necessity of amiable settlement in business conflicts, thus avoiding the delay and the costs of old legal formalities. I am happy to state here, before you all, that we have no purer objectives in our labors, and that in the future sittings of our congresses we will endeavor to aim at the realization of those wishes.

(Continuing in French)

Vous dirai-je, messieurs, l'impression profonde que les gens du vieux monde, au nom desquels je parle plus spécialement, éprouvent en débarquant aux États-Unis? L'ampleur et la grandeur de tout ce qui frappe les yeux n'ont d'égaux que l'activité et l'énergie des hommes qui ont créé ces merveilles.

Quand, après New-York, carrefour de l'Univers, avec ses gigantesque constructions et sa dévorante allure de cité commerçante et grouillante de vie, on arrive à Boston, on éprouve en outre un intense sentiment de reposant bien-être intellectuel, car cette ville de Boston, à part ses industries et son port, possède des établissements d'instruction de premier ordre; c'est la perle des États-Unis; et ce fut pour nous tous une satisfaction raffinée d'y avoir le siège de notre cinquième congrès des Chambres de commerce.

C'est à la santé de cette admirable ville que je vais vous convier à vider vos verres; mais je veux y joindre, et je le ferai dans votre belle langue, la santé de la puissante Chambre de commerce de Boston, de ses 5000 membres et de son distingué Président, M. Russell:

(Translation)

Shall I describe to you, gentlemen, the profound impression that the people of the old world, on behalf of whom I am especially speaking, feel when landing in the United States? The amplitude and grandeur of all that strikes the eye are only equalled by the activity and energy of the men who have created these wonderful things.

When, after New York, the cross-roads of the Universe, with its gigantic structures and that fascinating allurements which is characteristic of a commercial city stirring with life, Boston is reached, one experiences an intense feeling of quieting, intellectual comfort, for this City of Boston, aside from its industries, its water front and harbor, possesses educational institutions of the first order. It is the pearl of the United States; and it was to us a keen satisfaction to hold there our Fifth Congress of the Chambers of Commerce.

To the prosperity of this admirable city I invite you to empty your glasses; but I wish to join therewith — and I shall do it in your beautiful language — the prosperity of the mighty Chamber of Commerce of Boston, of its 5000 members, and of its distinguished President, Mr. Russell.

(Continuing in English)

This Chamber of Commerce of Boston spends more than \$150,000 a year not only on commerce and trade, but on such things as education, the prevention of disease and accident, city planning and many social things that are inseparably connected with business in the city, state or nation.

We have been welcomed with such a courtesy, such a kindness, even in the slightest details our hosts have striven to render our stay so agreeable, that I find no words to thank appropriately the Boston Chamber of Commerce, its President and all its members.

The lovely ladies who have so kindly attended to the feminine portion of the congressists, are entitled to a specially gracious mention of gratitude which I am delighted to address to them.

Of the few days we have spent together, a profound souvenir will linger in our hearts. Our discussions among ourselves will bear fruit, we shall carry with us the memory of your methods and ways of doing, and the result will be beneficial and will make for progress.

Peace, honor and good will amongst men is the motto to remember.

I propose the health of the City of Boston, coupled with that of the Chamber of Commerce and of President Russell. (*Applause.*)

President Russell, Boston Chamber of Commerce

Among our many distinguished guests is one from Italy, a Senator of that kingdom, President of the Chamber of Commerce of his own city of Milan, and a former President of the International Congress of Chambers of Commerce; an eminent statesman, a noted engineer, a man of large affairs and much public service, he wears the coveted decorations of his own and other countries.

I am happy to present to you the Honorable ANGELO SALMOIRAGHI. (*Applause.*)

ADDRESS OF SENATOR ANGELO SALMOIRAGHI

President of the Milan Chamber of Commerce Representing the Hosts of the Milan Congress

Mr. President, Gentlemen, I am both honored and glad to speak upon this solemn occasion when the most important commercial representatives of all nations are gathered here in such a great number in the name of human solidarity, in the name of the progress of the commercial world and of its civilization.

I am honored and glad, and also proud, to represent here the government of my beloved country and particularly His Excellency the Minister of Commerce, Honorable Nitti. He, like myself, feels that it is true and sincere patriotism to give to Italy the opportunity to join all her sister nations and have with them the friendliest relations.

In the name of the Government of His Majesty the King of Italy, in the name of the delegates of the Commercial Associations of Italy, I salute and pay respectfully homage, first to the great Republic of the United States of America and to its President, Mr. Taft; to the State of Massachusetts; to the Authorities of this City, the Athens of America, which welcomes us with such a splendid courtesy; to the diligent Organizing Committee of the Congress which is going to make us spend an unforgettable period in our lives. I salute and thank every one of them and most particularly the President, Mr. Smith, and Vice-President, Mr. Filene. In the name of our ladies I thank the "Ladies' Committee" for the splendid reception that they have had here.

I drink to the ever increasing prosperity of this great nation, — a nation of the boldest initiative, of the highest and noblest conceptions, to which she knows how to dedicate the best part of her marvelous strength. (*Applause.*)

President Russell, Boston Chamber of Commerce

And last but not least in our list for this evening is a noted citizen of Great Britain. Of old Scotch Calvinistic stock, he, like so many of his countrymen, early in life left home and began his very successful career in the then far-distant New Zealand. Coming home he engaged in banking and other business, entered Parliament, and became identified with the leading measures and developments of our time. Always progressive, ever active, he has made for himself an honored name; a world traveler, a keen observer, deeply interested in commercial affairs and commercial bodies, his assistance and advice are eagerly sought and always freely given.

I present to you Mr. F. FAITHFULL BEGG. (*Applause.*)

ADDRESS OF MR. F. FAITHFULL BEGG

Chairman of the Council of the London Chamber of Commerce Representing the Hosts of the London Congress

Mr. President, Mr. Governor, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I have selected the English language as the medium of my speech but I wish it to be understood that when I have finished I shall be glad to repeat my remarks in all the other languages spoken at the Congress, if you desire to listen to me. (*Laughter.*)

My first word must be an expression of regret that my old friend, Mr. Charles Charleton, owing to illness, is not present to discharge the duty which thus falls, however unworthily, upon me. We, in the London Chamber of Commerce, had the great privilege in 1910 of welcoming the Fourth International Congress, and many of those present know well how ably Mr. Charleton discharged the duties which fell to his lot on that occasion.

The present Congress far exceeds in importance any Congress which has preceded it, and we owe it to the energy of our kind hosts in Boston that it has proved a magnificent success. It is true that you have not been able to give universal satisfaction. There are, for example, I understand, delegates who are indignant because their bathrooms are several inches shorter than they had been led to expect before undertaking to cross the Atlantic. (*Laughter.*)

Nevertheless we are experiencing a reception in Boston as hearty and as sincere as any that has hitherto been extended to previous Congresses by the crowned heads and potentates by which they have been welcomed.

We were led to expect much, but I think I cannot better express our feelings with regard to our reception than in the words of the Queen of Sheba, when she made her historic visit to King Solomon, "Behold the half has not been told us." (*Applause.*)

We find ourselves greeted here in this historic city not only by the merchants of the city itself, but we are honored by the presence of the head of the Government of the United States, by the Governor of the state of Massachusetts and by the Mayor of the city. And if we have not been greeted by crowds in the streets as great as those which have welcomed the return of the Red Sox, the photographers at least have done their best to make our visit comfortable. (*Laughter.*)

You have even gone so far as to arrange for a contested election to take place during the period of our visit especially, so I understand the Mayor to say in his address of welcome, especially in order that we might have an opportunity of examining the working of American institutions at the polling booths. (*Laughter.*)

This reception, in spite of the shortcomings to which I have referred, cannot but have a powerful effect in building up the vitality of our organization and rendering it more effective for the purposes for which it was designed.

The rapid development in the importance of these Congresses has more than justified the faith of those who a few years ago formulated the idea upon which they are founded. The root, or fundamental idea, was to form a federation of commercial men throughout the countries of the world, having for its object to induce or even compel governments to devote their attention less to the arts of war and more to the arts of peace. In this ambition the organization has met with a considerable measure of success, but much remains to be done. Governments have not yet accepted the theory that embassies and chancelleries should concern themselves less than they have done with the organization of national resources for the purposes of destruction, and that commerce is not carried on merely to provide a treasure fund destined chiefly to provide means for the carrying on of war. We desire that governments should regard commerce as an end and not merely as a means.

To our hosts on this occasion may I say that whilst here on this vast continent you have had, more or less in the past, little to concern yourselves with except the development of your wonderful resources, even you are not now free from the complications of a foreign policy or

from questions of difficulty which tend to increase in number and must so increase as time goes on.

You are meeting these questions with characteristic skill. To this end you have even been able to add weapons to the already well-stocked armory of diplomatists. There is, for example, that famous doctrine specially applicable to this continent, which, from the name of its author, I take to have been evolved by a countryman of my own possessing that special talent for metaphysics that characterizes the Scottish race. (*Laughter.*)

But if you will turn your eyes from this hemisphere to the Continent of Europe what will you find? You will find the nations massed in armed camps, every nerve being strained for the increase of armaments on land and ruinous expenditure being incurred on an ever increasing scale in preparation for warfare at sea. We read in the pages of history of great world-movements by which the nations of antiquity were shaken to their foundation and in many cases perished utterly by the operations of war. Nothing remains of many of these nations but moldering relics of departed greatness, vast mounds of crumbling dust marking where great cities once stood, now surrounded by desolation.

Are we sure that we have not questions to solve in the future, and it may be in the immediate future, of magnitude as great, or even greater, than those which convulsed the empires of the past? We are men of business whose interests lie in the solution of such questions without resort to war. Should we not see to it that our influence should ever be brought to bear upon governments of whatever description to secure by every means in our power a peaceful solution in every case, and may we not hope that our influence properly exerted may be sufficient to secure that end? (*Applause.*)

In conclusion, I trust that I shall not be regarded as greatly daring if I refer to a question which is much in the minds of commercial men at the present time. The great nation whose guests we are is engaged at the present moment in the completion of a work of unexampled magnitude and destined to revolutionize the trade routes of the world. The necessity for that great work has long been evident, but it has been left to the United States of America to undertake its completion. We must all accord the highest honor to this country for the magnificent spirit in which the task has been undertaken and the scientific skill which has been displayed in carrying it out.

Incidentally there has arisen in connection with this matter a question of high politics in regard to which the country to which I have the honor to belong, and the great Republic whose guests we are, do not at the moment see eye to eye. Far be it from me to say a single word on this occasion on the merits of that difference of opinion, but I do desire to say this (and I speak with full concurrence of all my associates from London here present), that I have confidence that the great common-sense and well-known capacity for adjusting difficult problems which characterizes both nations will find a solution by peaceful means which will be honorable to both parties concerned. (*Applause.*)

We are now approaching the date when one hundred years of unbroken peace will have existed between the two countries. Our past struggles are long ago forgiven and forgotten. We no longer remember the Boston Tea Party with resentment and Bunker Hill has become a historic memory.

That these harmonious relations will continue I confidently believe and it is my earnest prayer and hope that nothing may ever occur to disturb them. (*Applause.*)

Adjourned.

Rules

The rules governing the International Congress of Chambers of Commerce are as follows:

1. The International Congress of Chambers of Commerce and Commercial and Industrial Associations shall meet at intervals which, generally speaking, shall not exceed two years.

2. The following shall be admitted to the Congress — Delegates of any corporation legally representing commercial and industrial interests, and of voluntary industrial and commercial associations; also, delegates of federations of such corporations and commercial and industrial unions.

Individuals not being nominated delegates, but who are members of any such corporation or union, shall also be admitted.

3. The subscription shall be 20 francs for individuals, and 50 francs for corporations or unions. The latter shall, on payment of the 50 francs, be entitled to nominate three delegates; for each additional delegate 20 francs shall be payable.

4. The Congress itself shall decide questions of internal organization. The Congress may, besides, vote on any question which it discusses, if the majority so desire.

Participants admitted in accordance with Rule 2 (Paragraph 2) shall not be entitled to vote; those nominated in accordance with Rule 2 (Paragraph 1) shall each have a vote. The decision shall be made by a majority vote. At the request of not less than ten members, who must in addition represent three different countries, the vote shall be taken *by countries*; such request must be made before the commencement of the voting. Should a vote be taken *by countries*, the decision shall be arrived at by a majority of voters present, in addition to the majority by countries, and otherwise the vote shall be declared void: a detail of the vote record by each country shall be included in the Minutes.

5. The Congress itself shall elect its executive officers for the duration of its meetings.

6. A Permanent Committee shall be formed for the purpose of making arrangements for the meetings and carrying out the decisions of the Congress.

Each country shall be represented on this Committee by at most three delegates. To this effect, three regular members and three alternates (*suppléants*) shall be nominated by each country.

7. The regular members and alternates shall be nominated by the delegates to the Congress of the different countries; delegates of countries having a national federation of Chambers of Commerce or of industrial and commercial associations may abandon the right of nominating representatives on the Permanent Committee in favor of such federation; members of the Permanent Committee shall exercise the authority thus conferred upon them until the succeeding Congress.

8. Every member of the Permanent Committee, unless absent, shall have a vote, and questions shall be decided by a majority of votes, provided that half of the countries are represented at the sitting.

9. The Permanent Committee shall elect from amongst its own members a President and Vice-President and, in addition, an administrator, who may be the General Secretary, but need not be a member of the Committee. Such appointments shall remain in force during the interval separating two Congresses.

The Permanent Committee shall decide upon the place at which the next Congress shall be held in the event of the previous Congress not having done so.

Pending any further decision on the matter, the headquarters of the Permanent Committee shall be in Brussels.

10. The Permanent Committee shall be convened by the President. The latter must call the Committee together if so requested by at least a fourth of its members.

11. The expenses shall be defrayed by means of the subscriptions referred to in Rule 3, and by contributions which may eventually be made by States, corporations, unions or individuals.





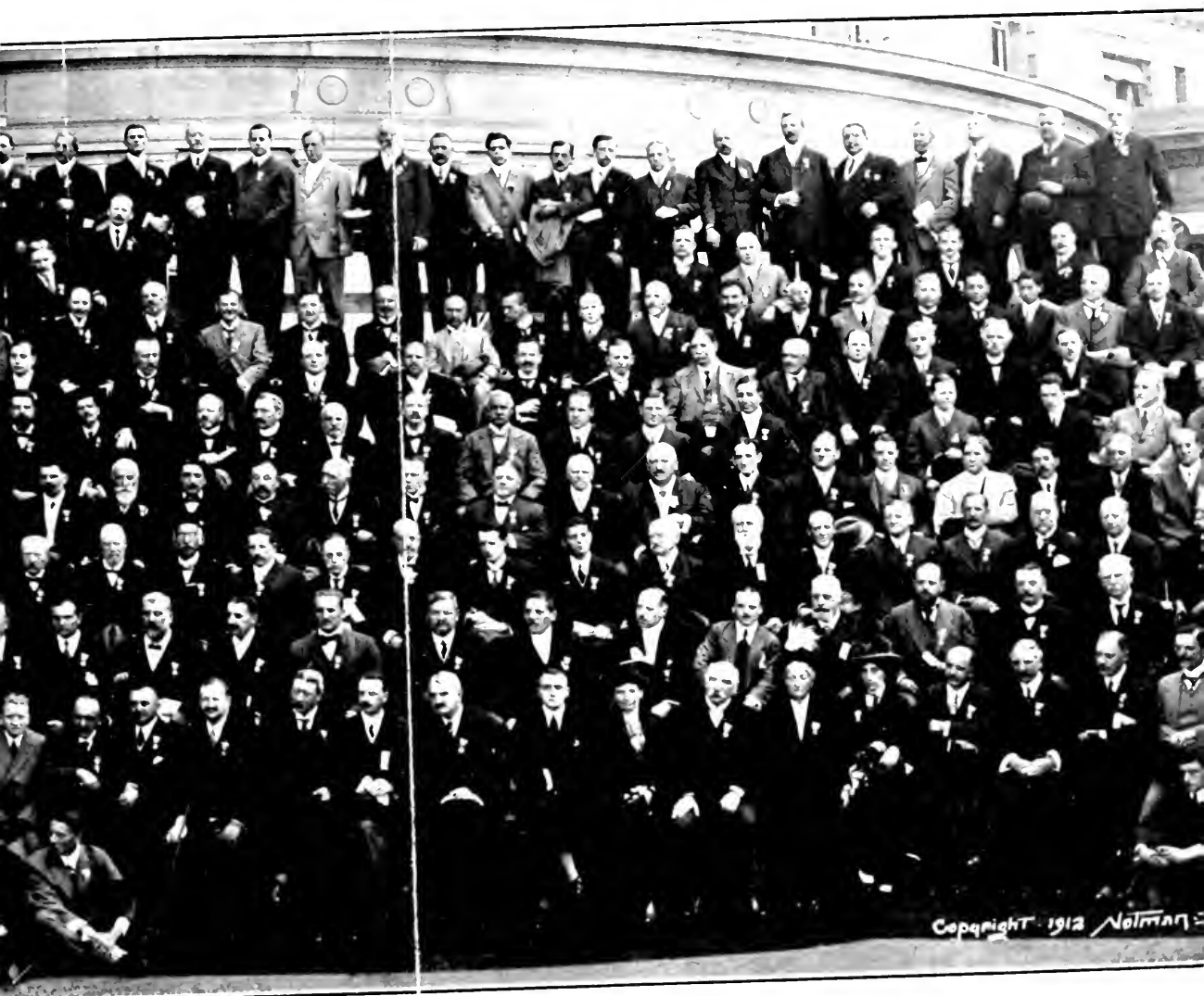


12TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND COMMERCE

BOSTON, U.S.A., SEPTEMBER, 1912



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